



TOWN OF LEYDEN

Board of Health

Board of Health

Location: Leyden Town Hall – 16 W. Leyden Road

Date: September 10, 2026

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Meeting: In-person (no zoom)

The Leyden Board of Health is inviting all residents and other interested parties to a presentation on battery energy storage systems (BESS) on **Thursday, September 10, from 6:00–8:00 PM, at our Town Hall, 16 W. Leyden Road.** Attorney Mike Hugo, Director of Strategies and Government Relations at the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards (MAHB) will be presenting.

The focus will be the new state regulations set to go into effect on October 1 and the challenges rural communities like ours will face. Attorney Hugo will also examine the Board of Health's role in local permitting and Energy Facilities Siting Board proceedings, opportunities for intervention and funding, legal limitations such as state preemption, and specific concerns involving fire, smoke, PFAS, noise, site safety, emerging technologies, and litigation risk. We will consider similar public health and nuisance issues raised by data centers, with ample time for questions and discussion.

Moreover, Attorney Hugo will touch upon the statutory duties and powers of boards of health — including legislative delegation and home-rule authority — as well as enforcement tools involving nuisances, “noisome trades,” and site assignments, plus recent developments in regulating tobacco, kratom, noise, light, and odors. Attorney Hugo will also address essential meeting procedures, including compliance with the Open Meeting Law and responses to public-records requests.

For any questions, please contact Devorah Vester, Leyden Board of Health, chair, at boh@townofleyden.com