

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
February 12, 2008
7:00PM
School

Public Hearing for Budget Committee to recommend Warrant Articles containing money

Draft: February 14, 2008

Present at this meeting: Selectmen: Richard Jones & Simon Carr. Budget Committee Members: Barney Brannen, Josh Kilham, Jeff Lehmann, Gibb Cornwell, Dave Caffry & Elizabeth Glenshaw. School Board Representative: Kathy McGowan. Principal: Jeff Valance. Public: Pete Mulivihill, Don Elder, Jay Smith, Robert Couture, Scott Steffey, Kathleen Henriques, & Frank Bowles. Staff: Town Clerk Patty Jenks. Administrative Assistant Carole Bont & Bookkeeper/Scribe Dina Cutting.

Mr. Kilham moved to approve the minutes of the January 26th, 2008 meeting. Seconded by Mr. Cornwell. Voted unanimously in favor.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:10pm by Chair Brannen.
A review of warrant articles was passed out at this time.

Bond Warrant Article for Municipal Offices, including Police Offices:

Article 10 Mr. Smith gave a brief financial overview with the Committee's recommendations of the bond proposal for the Town Offices and the Police Station. The fundraising for the project has gone well and they have \$125,000.00 pledged to date.

Mr. Jones moved to recommend article 10. Seconded by Mr. Cornwell.

Followed was a discussion concerning the overall increase in taxes due to:

- Grafton County Jail project
- School Librarian
- Town Offices & Police Station
- High School Tuition

Mr. Bowles reviewed the different avenues the Town Offices Committee investigated. The Committee feels they are presenting the best deal for the Town at this time. The size of the vault was discussed. The Committee is still working on investigating document storage and will report back well before ground breaking.

- The motion was voted 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Lehmann) and 1 abstention (Mrs. Glenshaw).

Town Operating Budget

Article 11: Mr. Jones moved to recommend article 11. Seconded by Mr. Cornwell.

Questions were asked concerning the memo from the Police Department (attached). Mr. Jones responded.

- The motion was voted 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Lehmann) and 1 abstention (Mrs. Glenshaw). Mrs. Glenshaw noted she felt the strategic elements of reviewing this budget were not done.

To Capital Reserve Funds and Trust Funds

Article 12: Mr. Cornwell moved to recommend article 12. Seconded by Mr. Lehmann. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Withdrawal from Capital Reserve Funds and Expendable Trust Funds

Article 13: Mr. Caffry moved to recommend article 13. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Withdrawal from the Cemetery Maintenance Gifts and Donations Fund

Article 14: Mr. Jones moved to recommend article 14. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Withdrawal from Independence Day Special Revenue Fund

Article 15: Mr. Caffry moved to recommend article 15. Seconded by Mrs. McGowan. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Appropriating Monies to Put Into Blisters for Books Expendable Trust Fund

Article 16: Mr. Jones moved to recommend article 16. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Expending Money to Fill In Low-Lying Areas of Chase Beach

Article 17: Mr. Cornwell moved to recommend article 17. Seconded by Mrs. McGowan. Mr. Mulvihill reviewed various issues concerning this article:

- Article 17 and 18 were discussed together at this time.
- This article is contingent on the targeted 2' water level
- The fundraising is continuing and the amount to be raised by taxes will be adjusted down on the floor at town meeting
- The need for the CC to change the water release policy
- The responsibility of the Recreation Commission to the donors of this project.
- The Recreation Commission and the Selectmen's responsibility to have a health and safe facility.

Mr. Mulvihill reviewed the process of the field renovations per Pathways consultant recommendations. Followed was a brief discussion concerning permits needed from Fish & Game and DES and the responsibilities of the Conservation Commission concerning these permits. Followed was a discussion on who owns what in Clay Brook. State body of water verses Town. Various options on how to keep the targeted water at 2' were discussed. At this time it was noted by community members that the Town needs to look at this from the point of view of "how do we get it done". After a lengthy discussion Mrs. McGowan called the question. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw. Voted 5 in favor, 2 opposed (Mr. Kilham & Mr. Cornwell).

- The motion on article 17 was voted 6 in favor with 1 opposed (Mr. Jones)

Expending Money to Renovate the John Balch Memorial Field

Article 18: Mr. Caffry moved to recommend article 18. Seconded by Mrs. McGowan.

The Recreation Commission is working hard to get donations and will keep this at the lowest cost to the taxpayers.

The motion was voted 5 in favor, 1 opposed (Mr. Jones) and 1 abstention (Mr. Lehmann).

SCHOOL:

Article 2: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Four Million, Three Hundred Ninety-five Thousand, Five Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$4,395,526) as an operating budget for the Lyme School District for the 2008-2009 school year, as submitted by the Budget Committee. This article does not include the amounts requested in articles 3 and 4, but does include the amounts included in article 5. The school board and the budget committee recommend this appropriation.

Mrs. McGowan moved to recommend article 2. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw.

The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Article 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000) to add to the High School Tuition Fund established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 9, 1995, for funding high school tuition expenses. The school board and the budget committee recommend this appropriation.

Mrs. McGowan moved to recommend article 3. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw.

The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Article 4: To see if the district will vote to raise and appropriate up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the High School Tuition Fund, established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 9, 1995, for funding high school tuition expenses, with such amount to be funded from the year end undesignated fund balance available on July 1, 2008. The school board and the budget committee recommend this appropriation. (Majority vote required)

Mrs. McGowan moved to recommend article 4. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw.

The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

Article 5: To determine and fix the salaries of school district offices as follows: School District Treasurer \$800.00; School District Clerk \$75.00; School District Moderator \$75.00. The amounts in this article are included in Article 2. The school board and the budget committee recommend this appropriation.

Mrs. McGowan moved to recommend article 5. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw.

The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

At this time Mrs. McGowan passed out a financial analysis she had prepared of the various town departments. This was for review purposes only.

At 8:35 Mr. Jones moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Kilham. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dina Cutting