

Town of Lyme  
Budget Committee  
September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
7:00PM  
Town Office/Police Station  
Conference Room

Approved: September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Present at this meeting: Budget Committee Members: Judith Brotman, Simon Carr, Laszlo Bardos, Earl Strout, Mark Schiffman, Elizabeth Glenshaw, William Lewis, Dick Justice, Tim Cook, Morton Bailey, & Robin Taylor. School Representative: Kate Semple-Barta. Selectmen: Richard Jones & Charles Ragan. Scribe: Dina Cutting.

The Budget Committee meeting was called to order immediately after the Selectmen meeting ended at 7:35pm by Chair Brotman.

Mark Schiffman gave a brief review and up-date on the school. The following topics were touched on:

- Budget surplus from 2009-2010 school year
  - \$50,000.00 in High School Tuition CRF
  - \$50,000.00 in Special Education CRF
  - The balance will go to reduce taxes.
- High School Student numbers up from expected
- Possible need to split additional classes next year, the class size is very close.
- Looking at starting a reserve fund for staff support as the large classes continue.
- Superintendant is retiring at the end of this school year
  - Superintendant office maybe reconfigured.
- Student population continues to grow.
- Special Education is expected to not be higher than last year's costs.
- Teacher Contract is in year 2 of 3.

At this time Chair Brotman opened the floor for nominations of Chair. Mr. Lewis moved to nominate Judy Brotman for Chair of the Budget Committee. Seconded by Mr. Strout. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.

The Budget Committee all agreed to make the public feel welcome and encourage their participation at meetings. The notices will go out on list serve, web page, postings and word of mouth to get people at these meetings. The tables will be set up so all public can see Budget Committee members.

The following general topics were discussed:

- What are the big issues for the Town?
- The Selectmen trying to keep the town running with the same services and no increase to the tax payers.

- Most Capital Reserve Funds are underfunded.
- The tax impact of the County Jail.
- The Undesignated Fund Balance.
- Some budget committee members are looking for more information from the Selectmen concerning what the Selectmen see as future financial issues.
- Giving the Department Heads some guidelines on budget requests.

Mr. Schiffman noted the school would not have enough meaningful information for the December 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. He requested this meeting be put off until December 15<sup>th</sup>. With respect to the budget books from the school, they will not include all the additional itemized information, but they will still have detailed budget lines.

Mr. Carr will provide the following information for the next Budget Meeting:

1. Undesignated Fund Balance
2. Fiscal Year document
3. CIP
4. Information on the Capital Reserve Funds
5. Information on the Town Buildings Maintenance Fund

At 8:30PM Mr. Strout moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Carr. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dina Cutting