

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
November 9th, 2011
7:00PM
Town Offices Conference Room

Approved: November 16th, 2011

Present at this meeting: Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Laszlo Bardos, Earl Strout, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Morton Bailey, Tim Cook, Lisa Celone and Robin Taylor. Selectmen Representative: Simon Carr; School Representative: Scott May. Selectmen: Charles Ragan & Richard Vidal. Public: Thomas Kent. Scribe: Dina Cutting. Excused: Phil Barta.

At 7:02 PM the meeting was called to order by Chair Brotman.

1. Ms. Glenshaw moved to approve the minutes of the October 19th, 2011. Seconded by Mr. Carr. It was noted Mr. Strout was not present at this meeting. The motion was voted 8 in favor and 1 abstention (Strout).

2. Mr. Carr gave an up-to-date report on River Road:
 - Upper Valley Land Trust was informed by the NH Department of Agriculture that the Town will need to take the land needed for the River Road repair by eminent domain. This will make the process lengthier but we have no choice but to follow this lengthy process. The Selectmen are moving ahead with this procedure. They will also be looking to mitigation grants and the NRCS to see what kinds of monetary help they may offer.
 - 2012 proposed budget: The following areas of the proposed budget were discussed;
 - i. Payroll - 3.8% increase based on N.E. CPI
 - ii. A 2% increase for all full time employees to cover their state-required increase to their contribution to NH Retirement.
 - iii. Phone line changes - bundling telephone and internet to save
 - iv. New copier for Selectmen's office - passing old one to Town Clerks Office
 - v. Vital records – record preservation done every other year (none this year)
 - vi. “Power Gate” for Town Clerk's office
 - vii. Heating oil – contract for this year.
 - viii. Insurance - average 10.1% increase for health and 3.8% for dental
 - ix. Utility appraiser – cost offset by tax revenue gained
 - x. Legal-2 suits and the regular utilities abatements.
 - xi. Lyme Center Academy Building – maintenance and operational costs vs. usage fees
 - xii. Police - wages, new equipment (radar trailer), Public Safety, part-time personnel
 - xiii. Highway - Material, River Road work, over-time tracking

- xiv. Sexton costs (mower, wages) – possible subcontracting in the coming years
 - xv. Tree maintenance and/or replacement - on the Common
 - xvi. Library – Search for librarian replacement
 - xvii. Tax Anticipation Note
 - xviii. CPI - discussion on establishing a wage-increase figure
 - xix. Employee benefits – employee contributions, benefit packages
- The Selectmen will be presenting a Capital Reserve Funds discussion at the next meeting.
 - The Selectmen will present an updated spreadsheet next week.

At 8:07Pm Mr. Strout moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Celone. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dina Cutting

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, November 16, 2011 – 7 PM.