

Town of Lyme  
Budget Committee  
September 19, 2012  
7:00PM  
Town Office Conference Room

Present at this meeting: Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Simon Carr, Laszlo Bardos, Earl Strout, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Richard Jones, Robin Taylor, Charles Ragan, Morton Bailey & Phil Barta. Selectman: Charles J. Smith. Scribe: Dina Cutting.

The Budget Committee meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chair Brotman.

1. There was no public comment at this time
2. Minutes of February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2012 were approved.
3. The minutes of August 1, 2012 and September 12, 2012 will be reviewed at the November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 meeting.
4. The sub-committees were asked to give their reports:
  - “The Big Picture” – The team of Lazlo, Elizabeth and Dick presented information on Tax growth (overall budget growth), how the tax dollars are spent (the tax bill impact relative to budget growth), and department share of the budget as compared to other communities.
    - Reviewed tax rate
    - Growth
    - Comparisons were made to various towns
    - Medium house values
  - The Police Department - The team of Earl, Lisa and Robin presented an overview of the department budget, focusing on the mechanics of the department, and broader research into how other communities of our size and demographics handle safety and law enforcement.
    - Review of Lyme police department
    - Possibility of contracting police services from County Sheriff
    - Leasing vehicles
  - The Roads Committee - Committee members Jay Smith and Morton Bailey updated the Budget Committee on what this Board of Selectmen appointed Committee is working towards over the coming years.
    - Chronically failing roads
    - Geotextile and its pros and cons for roads
    - Baker Hill Road test project
    - Larger culverts
    - River Road north and south
    - Searching for grant funds for projects
    - Developing a prioritized list of road repairs and up grades

5. Discussion of issues/recommendations for budget development
  - a) Budget Committee members requested a copy of the school's power point presentation for further consideration during budget discussions.
  - b) Budget committee members requested "more flushed out" details/information on the proposed school budget.
  - c) Budget Committee members suggested that a tour of the school would be helpful.
  - d) The Budget Committee generally discussed possible recommendations to the Town and School concerning the coming budget, focusing on a goal of establishing the most economical budget possible.
  
6. There being no further business Mr. Carr moved to adjourn at 8:40PM. Seconded by Bardos. Voted unanimously in favor.

Next meeting: November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 – Presentation of the Board of Selectmen's budget.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dina Cutting