

Approved: November 6, 2013

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
September 25th, 2013
7:00PM
Town Office/Police Station
Conference Room

Present –

Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Charles J. Smith, Richard Jones, Charles Ragan, Brian Cook, and Elizabeth Glenshaw.

Superintendent: Mike Harris: School Board Chair: Mark Shiffman.

Selectboard member: Susan MacKenzie.

Scribe: Dina Cutting.

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

1. Mrs. Brotman gave a brief review of the agenda for this meeting.
2. Mr. Ragan moved to approve the minutes of the February 6th, 2013 Public Hearing. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw. Voted 5 in favor and 1 abstention (Cook).
3. Mrs. Glenshaw moved to appoint Mrs. Brotman as chair of this committee. Seconded by Mr. Cooke. Mrs. Brotman graciously accepted. This was voted unanimously in favor.
4. Selectboard update:
 - The retiring police cruiser has been sold to another town.
 - Review of legal costs – concerned that this line will be over budget.
 - The assessor's costs have increased because of the court cases.
 - Bridges - further inspections have noted concern for 3 town bridges plus the Fisher Bridge, which has been already slated for work in the spring of 2014. Hewes Brook Bridge on River Road is in bad shape. The Capital Reserve fund will not have the funds in it needed to do both bridges in 2014. Pathways Engineering LLC has been hired to review and recommend options concerning repairs for these bridges.
 - The Selectboard is considering recommending an article to address River Road repairs. This would be part of a grant from FEMA hazard mitigation. Pathways Engineering LLC is preparing a study for the south section of River Road.
 - The Cemetery Trustees and the Selectboard met and decided to put the entire town mowing task out to bid for the 2014. The town should see a significant savings in this line item.
 - The Roads committee is working with UNH to develop a 10 year plan for our road repairs and maintenance.
5. School update:
 - Mr. Harris reviewed the handout – at the end of the school year, (2012-2013), \$45,414 was unexpended. \$40,000 will be put into the High School Tuition Fund and \$5,414 will be put into the Special Education Fund.

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- Capital Reserve Funds were reviewed.
 - The current student population is at 201 pupils.
 - 3 classes will be split this coming year to accommodate the large class sizes.
 - The portable classroom is in place, with savings realized from the final location.
 - Fuel savings.
 - Future budget considerations:
 - High school choice should stay the same.
 - The school population is increasing for elementary classes. Staffing will need to change to accommodate this growth.
 - Renovations Committee - this group has continued meeting and feels the needs are the same. They will continue to look at various possible options to address crowding in the school to be put before the voters at school district meeting.
 - There is a projected 4-8% increase in building costs over last year.
 - Construction managers for this project have been interviewed.
 - The school will be looking at both local lenders and the bond bank for funding the project.
6. At this time Ms. Brotman brought up consideration of the resignation of Ms. Celone due to her uncertain schedule conflicts because of a health issue. The unanimous sense of the committee was to ask her to remain a full member, attending when she is able. The Budget Committee is large enough to have a quorum for meetings even with her absence, but that her contributions are very valuable. The Committee would like her to continue to come when she can.
7. At 7:59PM Mr. Jones moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Glenshaw. Voted unanimously in favor.

Sincerely,

Dina Cutting