

Town of Lyndeborough 3
Budget Committee Minutes – December 12, 2013

Members Present: Kevin Boette, Steve Brown, Mike Decubellis, Don Guertin, Karen Grybko, Walter Holland, Burton Reynolds, Sandy Schoen

The meeting began at 6:30 pm with a roll call. It was noted that the committee is 3 (2?) members short. It was recommended that members reach out to the community to solicit any parties that might be interested in serving on the committee. Additional exposure on the town website and perhaps the *Lyndeborough Views* could also be helpful in notifying the citizenry of the openings.

Conservation Commission (Flat) – Sharon Akers. Request one dollar for the 2014 budget to keep the line item open. No additional budget is required since the land use tax has been sufficient for operation this year.

Heritage Commission (Flat) – Jesse Salisbury. Flat budget request.

Tax Anticipation Notes (Flat) – Burton Reynolds. Request one dollar for the 2014 budget to keep the line item open. The town has not had to incur debt in anticipation of taxes for some time, however it is prudent to keep this as a budget element.

Zoning Board of Adjustment (-1.98%) – Tom Chrisenton. Flat budget request.

Clerical budget is down slightly from last year as a new secretary has replaced the former.

Planning and Board (-2.2%) – Tom Chrisenton. Flat budget request.

Clerical budget is down slightly from last year as a new secretary has replaced the former.

The Planning Board is discussing an update to the Town Master Plan, which was last revised in 2002. It is considering encumbering expenses associated with this update prior to year's end.

Health Inspector (-91.12%) – Burton Reynolds. The Health Inspector stipend has been reduced to \$1 (to keep the line item open) as the current inspector does not collect it.

Health Agencies & Hospitals(-10.31%) – Burton Reynolds. The accounts within the Health Agencies & Hospitals account were reviewed by the Board of Selectmen and adjusted according to the town's usage of each service. This resulted in a budget reduction for Monadnock Family Services (from \$2105 to \$800), and in increase in budget for Bridges for Domestic Violence from (\$200 to \$300). A new budget line item was also added – CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) in the amount of \$500 (not shown on worksheet).

It was noted that the Red Cross budget has steadily risen over the last few years, from \$200 in 2012 to a request for \$759 for 2014. The 2014 request is based upon \$0.45 per capita formula. Burton took the action to research whether the cost growth was accurate, and report at the next meeting.

Total requested amount for 2014 is \$3009.

Emergency Management Programs (+25.00%) – Burton Reynolds. Budget up slightly, to \$1875 from \$1500. Of the \$1875, \$1325 is for supplies such as traffic cones, sand bags, and barricades that may be needed in an emergency. An administrative change in this account moved generator expenses to Government Buildings. It was noted that the rental fee for the propane tank at Lyndeborough Elementary School no longer apply.

Emergency Management Grants(+) – Burton Reynolds. Town officials met with our new representative in Concord to explore possible grant opportunities. The requested budget amount was increased from \$1 to \$500. This is an ‘in and out’ account, the budgeted amount is offset by grant income. The town is looking at an 80/20 grant for 2 mobile radios for the Highway Department.

Cemeteries(-7.08%) – Ginny Chrisenton, Bob Rogers. Wages remain the same, it was noted that Greg Porter was being very efficient in performing his duties. Tree removal services are being contracted to remove some ash trees in South Cemetery. Mapping costs have been reduced, plotting equipment usage is being donated. It is expected that some expenses will be encumbered on stone repairs this year.

Repair & Maintenance is being reduced, Greg is performing much of it at a reduced cost.

A new push mower is being requested in the 2014 budget.

J. A. Tarbell Library(+9.46%) – Bob Rogers. The Library Trustees have been reviewing what services the library *does* provide and discussing what it *should* provide. Potential services include more involvement with the elementary school and monthly library programs, among others.

A new staff member is being recommended to provide additional support, 6 hours per week @ \$12/hr.

Wages as presented do not include the 1.5% COLA adjustment approved by the Board of Selectmen, they will be updated.

Actions:

1. Research Red Cross requested budget amount to ensure that it is consistent with formula. Burton Reynolds

Next Meeting: Highway Department

The meeting ended at 7:43 pm.

Minutes recorded by Steve Brown.