

**Lyndeborough Budget Committee
December 1, 2015
Citizens' Hall, 6:30 PM**

Members Present: Steve Brown, Peter Dallas, Walter Holland (until 7:20), Lee Mayhew (until 7:20), Burton Reynolds, Scott Roper, Sandy Schoen

Others Present: Russ Boland, Kent Perry, Mark Schultz (at 7:45)

Call to Order: 6:30 PM. Meeting convened by Burton Reynolds.

Appointment of New Member

Reynolds introduced Peter Dallas, an applicant for a vacant position on the committee. **Motion:** Roper moved to appoint Dallas to fill the vacant Budget Committee position. Schoen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Appointment of Chairman

Motion: Holland moved to appoint Burton Reynolds Chairman of the Budget Committee in 2015-16. Roper seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Committee Secretary

Roper was appointed to take notes for this meeting. That duty will alternate among Budget Committee members.

Miscellaneous

The Selectmen will meet with an engineer on December 9 at 6:00 PM to discuss the Mountain Road project.

A budget increase of about \$164,000 is needed to raise the tax rate by \$1.

Highway Department Budget

Full-Time Wages: One part-time employee will move to full-time in April, giving the department five full-timers. Duties will include general maintenance and cemetery work in addition to highway work. Added cost will be partially offset by budget reductions elsewhere, especially in maintenance and part-time expenditures. The Selectmen's Office will create a job description.

Part-Time Wages: \$1700 request is for first few months of 2016. Selectmen desire to keep \$1 in part-time budget in future years in case expenditures are needed in this area.

Overtime Wages: Except for burials; nearly all overtime is storm related.

Uniforms/Safety: includes reflective vests, heavy jackets, etc.

Electricity: Lighting is being changed to LED.

Building Maintenance: High 2015 expenditure due to lack of water/need to fix well issues.

Chains/Blades/Edges: Expenditures in these areas are directly related to the amount of snow received.

Fuel: Underexpended in 2015 because the grader was down for six months.

Vehicle Costs—Vendor: High expenditures in 2015 due to equipment age. Proper maintenance has been done on vehicles. The oldest vehicle is the 2002 Mack, oldest sander is from the 1980s. Perry indicated that the town holds on to its vehicles too long. Reynolds stated that the CIP will show a revised vehicle rotation of 12 years rather than 15 years.

Bridge Maintenance: \$1 request for 2016 is a place marker.

Sand: Overexpended in 2015—the town ran out of sand and had to buy more.

Crack Seal: Request has doubled over 2015. Extends life of a road for three years. Perry wants to get more.

Equipment Rental/Contracted Services: The department is reducing its use of the brush cutter and will just cut back the intersections, meaning lower rental costs.

Guardrail: The department has a 2015-2022 guardrail plan. Perry would like to spend about \$14,000-\$15,000 per year on guardrails.

Paving: Expect to spend \$160000 (with block grant) on Mountain Road. The money will be spent on roads no matter what happens to the Mountain Road project vote.

Overall: Perry and Boland request a budget increase of \$12,736.

Next Meeting

The Budget Committee will meet December 8 at 6:30 in Citizens' Hall, 2nd floor.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Roper