

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
December 11th, 2013
7:00PM

Town Office/Police Station Conference Room
Approved: January 8th, 2014

Present –

Budget Committee Members: Judy Brotman, Charles J. Smith, Robin Taylor, Richard Jones, Laszlo Bardos, Phil Barta, Brian Cook and Elizabeth Glenshaw. Superintendent: Mike Harris. Principal: Jeff Valance. Schoolboard Chair: Mark Schiffman.

Community members: David and Barbara Roby.

Scribe: Dina Cutting.

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

1. Mr. Jones moved to approve the minutes of the December 4th, 2013. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw. Minor changes were offered. Voted unanimously in favor with minor changes noted.
2. School proposed budget presentation: FY 2015 budget proposal memo was distributed (see attached document). Mr. Harris reviewed the tentative proposed budget for the 2014-2015 school year.
 - Proposed FY 15 budget is \$5,805,234, total increase of \$125,917.
 - Decreases: High school tuition, portable classrooms (they will need funding if kept and funds to pay to have them removed).
 - Increases: Teacher Salaries & benefits: regular instruction shows an increase of 7.9%. Elementary Special Education shows an increase of 29%. These increases are a result of two factors, salary scale increases and a net addition of a full-time teacher for the middle school.
 - Mr. Harris reviewed the following items;
 - High school instruction lines and High school special education accounts. Total decrease -4.7%
 - Elementary regular education accounts. Teachers' salaries, insurance and retirement rates. Total increase 5.2%
 - Elementary Special education accounts. 24% increase
 - Support Services. Total of all services has dropped 4% because of shifts in guidance, in-service training, principal's salary, and counseling expenses.
 - Administrative services: Total increase of 7.9%.
 - Buildings and Grounds: Increase is attributable to 2% increase in the custodian's salary. Total increase in account 1%.
 - Transportation: increase of \$2,600
 - Food Services: Total increase of \$5,500.
 - Facilities Acquisition: Net reduction of \$36,000
 - Debt Service: Last payment of the current bond. A decrease of \$4,481 from the current year.
 - Grants: None of the grant accounts are currently listed for funding.

- Transfers: The Board has yet to make any decisions on the transfers of funds to the Capital Reserve Funds. These transfers will affect the FY 15 budget proposal.
3. Building up-date: 3.65 million for the bond. This is a redesign of the addition proposed last year. It is a different construction project. The School Board is looking to fundraise \$165,000 to come off the \$3.65 million dollar figure. The committee is still working on this and this design has a simpler construction schedule. Bonding was briefly discussed. The cost of the trailers and fundraising will make the bond payments about the same as what the town has been spending in the past years. The budget committee discussed the possible % increase in construction cost if this is put off another year.
 4. Because this meeting had only a draft budget, the final budget will be presented/discussed on January 8th, 2014. At this time budget committee members will take the information and study it. Coming back on January 8th, 2013 ready to ask questions and discusses this proposed budget with the School administration.
 5. The next meeting Budget committee meeting will be January 8th, 2013.
 6. At 8:25PM Mr. Jones moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Bardos. Voted unanimously in favor.

Sincerely,

Dina Cutting