

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
PO Box 126
1 High Street
Lyme NH 03768
November 3rd, 2021
Conference Room & Zoom
Approved: November 10th, 2021

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Budget Committee Members: Richard Jones, Judy Brotman, Erik Colberg, Wilkes McClave, Bill Malcolm, Sue MacKenzie, James Graham, Elizabeth Glenshaw, Michael McKusick, Lynne Parshall and Brian Spence

Administrator: Dina Cutting.

Public: John Bigalow, 2 phone numbers were on the zoom meeting and did not identify themselves.

1. At 7:01 PM Mr. Jones opened the meeting.
2. Mr. McClave moved to approve the minutes of the October 27th, 2021 meeting. Seconded by Mrs. Glenshaw. Voted in favor with one abstention.
3. Mr. Jones reviewed some right to know rules associated with email discussions. If a committee member has questions they should email Chair Jones or Mrs. Cutting and please do not send to all committee members.
4. Mrs. Brotman reported the total increase in the Select Board proposed budget is 4.88%. Mrs. Brotman reviewed the New England CPI. The Town has used this CPI to set standard raises for the employees. The following topics were reviewed and discussed:
 - Assessor contracted increase- With the reveal there will be more abatements to be addressed.
 - General Government: The cell phones and package is the \$3,000 increase. The phones and package will be used for police, municipal offices and fire department.
 - Confirmed there were no part-time positions increased to full-time for the 2022 budget.
 - Employee Benefits: Health insurance decreased 8.1%-Dental decreased 1.5% and all other held level.
 - The Highway department went back to a 4 full time department this year.

- The Select Board is going to try to hire lifeguards in 2022. Many local employers have found this difficult.
 - Pond Program Coordinator is also funded in hopes that COVID will not effect this program negatively.
 - Capital reserve Funds will not be ready to review for a few weeks. There is no plan as of to date to purchase any vehicles in 2022.
 - The board is hoping to keep the In To CRF no more than what was voted in 2021.
 - Concerns were noted of increases in the gas, diesel, sand and salt for 2022.
 - Municipalities are governed by the "Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and "New Hampshire Government Financial Officer Association"(NHGFOA). The town operates on a "Modified accrual basis".
 - The updated Visiting Nurses cover letter was reviewed.
 - The paving for north River Road will be completed in the spring.
 - Keeping the proposed budget flat was mentioned, and the cost of living was also discussed at this time.
 - Repairs to the covered bridge were briefly reviewed.
 - Any additional information the Budget Committee members may want should be requested through Mrs. Cutting.
5. Next meeting further questions and any additional information on the 2022 proposed budget. Mr. Jones requested the department budget be noted on the spreadsheet also.
 6. At 7:57 PM Mrs. Glenshaw moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Graham and voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dina Cutting