

Town of Lyme  
Budget Committee  
January 25<sup>th</sup> 2023  
In person and Zoom  
MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING  
Approved: February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Budget Committee Members: Richard Jones, Judy Brotman, Jennifer Boylston, Wilkes McClave, Sue MacKenzie, James Graham, Richard Brown, John Biglow and Brian Spence.

Town Officials: Administrator: Dina Cutting, Clerk: Jordan Toland

Attending in person: School Superintendent: Frank Perotti, Financial Administrator Janet Mitchell, Principal John D'Etremont (via zoom).; Fire Chief Aaron Rich.

School Board Members (by Zoom): Yolanda Bujarski, Hayes Greenway and Vince Berk

Public: (in person) Leigh Prince and Patience Rich.

Public (by Zoom): David Roby, Bridgette, Donna, Connie Balch, Rebecca Hanissian, Hebe Quinton, Kati Miller, Heather, Kristin Roth, Brian Cook, J Komarmi, Sebastian Carter, Kym, Colleen Harty, Sarah McBride, 3 others unidentified.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chair Jones.

1. Mr. McClave moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Mrs. Brotman. A community members name was added to the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously.
2. Chair Jones opened the Public Hearing at 7:03PM. Mr. Jones explained the order for the evening: the public present will be heard first, then the public attending by zoom will be heard, finally the budget committee members will be heard. Following budget committee discussion, the vote will be taken on the warrant Article under consideration

Leigh Prince read from a prepared statement (see attachment # 1). Mrs. Prince requested the budget committee consider adding \$73,220.00 to fund the Tech and Library sections of the budget that were cut prior to this hearing.

Kristin Roth supported this request.

Superintendent Frank Perotti distributed a revised budget in the amount of \$8,404,274.00.

Mrs. Boylston responded to the requested increase. She noted the school finance committee had recommended budget cuts; the administration feels the budget presented at this hearing will work.

**Article # 2:** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend article # 2 in the amount presented at this meeting of \$8,404,274.00. Seconded by Mr. McClave.  
Further discussion took place.

At this time Mr. Graham moved to amend the proposed school budget to add the \$70,00.00. Seconded by Ms. MacKenzie. The amendment was discussed further. Comments were taken from the School Board, the community members and budget committee members. It was the sense of the Budget Committee members to vote on this amendment at this time.

The amendment to the motion was voted 2 in favor (Graham and MacKenzie) and 6 against (Boylston, Brotman, McClave, Spence, Brown and Biglow), by a roll call vote. The amendment does not pass.

The original motion to recommend the school budget in the amount of \$8,404,274.00 was voted 8-0 by a roll call vote.

Each of the following articles was open to any questions from the Budget Committee and the public prior to voting.

- **Article # 3-** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend article 3 in the amount of \$50,000. Seconded by Mr. Graham. Motion voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0
- **Article # 4-** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend Article 4 in the amount of \$100,000. Seconded by Mr. McClave. Motion voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article # 5-** Mr. Graham moved to recommend Article 5 in the amount of \$1,025. Seconded by Mrs. Boylston. Motion voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.

The Town proposed 2023 Warrant Articles containing money were presented for consideration. Chair Jones asked for any questions pertaining to the 2023 proposed warrant articles. Mrs. Brotman explained that original Warrant Article #10 for Goose Pond Road work (\$75,000) was removed from the Warrant by the Select Board. Each article was opened to any questions from the Budget Committee and the public prior to voting.

- **Article 3-** Mr. McClave moved to recommend article 3 in the amount of \$2,759,997. Seconded by Mr. Spence. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 4-** Mr. Spence moved to recommend article 4 in the amount of \$390,000. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 5-** Mr. McClave moved to recommend article 5 in the amount of \$95,000. Seconded by Mrs. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 6-** Mr. Brotman moved to recommend article 6 in the amount of \$81,717. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 7-** Mr. McClave moved to recommend article 7 in the amount of \$82,252. Seconded by Mrs. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.

- **Article 8-** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend article 8 in the amount of \$243,700. Seconded by Mr. Spence. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 9-** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend article 9 in the amount of \$240,000. Seconded by Mrs. Boylston. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.  
*Mrs. Brotman explained that original article 10 for Goose Pond Road work (\$75,000) was removed from the Warrant by the Select Board.*
- **Article 10-** Mrs. Brotman moved to recommend article 10 in the amount of \$38,250. Seconded by Mr. Spence. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 11-** Mr. McClave moved to recommend article 11 in the amount of \$6,983. Seconded by Mr. Graham. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 12-** Mr. Graham moved to recommend article 12 in the amount of \$25,960. Seconded by Ms. MacKenzie. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- **Article 13-** Mr. Brown moved to recommend article 13 in the amount of \$15,991. Seconded by Mr. Graham. Voted unanimously in favor by a roll call vote of 8-0.
- *Article 17 has been removed from the original Warrant by the Select Board.*

At this time there were no further questions or comments.

Chair Jones thanked all the committee members for their time dedicated to the budget process. The public hearing scheduled for February 8<sup>th</sup>, 2023 will still take place. The petitioners have reported the Warrant Article they are presenting will have funds that will need to be voted on by the Budget Committee.

At 8:02PM Mr. Graham moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Brotman. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dina Cutting