

TOWN OF LYME
Budget Committee
P.O. Box 126
Lyme, NH 03768-0126
Town Office conference room
October 18, 2023
Approved October 25, 2023

Present: James Graham, Richard Jones, Brian Spence, Bill Malcolm, Scott May, Hayes Greenway, Vince Berk, Wilkes McClave, Rich Brown and Jennifer Boylston, School Board Representative.

Administrator: Dina Cutting

Department heads: David Robbins, Planning & Zoning Administrator, Matthew Thebodo, Transfer Station Director and Judy Russell, Librarian.

The meeting was opened at 7:00PM by Chair Jones.

Introduction of Budget Committee members and department heads present were made.

Mr. Malcolm moved to approve the minutes of the October 11th, 2023. Seconded by Ms. Greenway. Mr. Malcolm clarified the culvert discussion last week included incorrect information concerning culvert size. 2 names were corrected. The minutes were voted in favor with one abstention (Brown).

Department presentations:

Planning & Zoning - The following topics were reviewed and discussed:

- Department has 1 full time administrator.
- New item-Vision software license. Mr. Robbins uses the vision program at times and it would be convenient to have this on his computer.
- \$5,000 has been added in for the addition of a consultant if this is necessary throughout the year. The board will be developing a new chapter for housing. If the Planning Board comes up with questions they may need this expertise.
- Various questions were asked and answered.

Transfer Station - The following topics were reviewed and discussed:

- Lebanon land fill is going up 15% and will continue to go up 12% each year for the near future.
- Looking for ways to possibly lower the expenses. The Budget committee requested information on the cost of keeping Wednesdays open. Possibly reducing services.
- The Transfer Station budget sheet needs to be sent out for review.
- Various questions were asked and answered.

Library - The following topics were reviewed and discussed:

- Library assistant position reduced 2 hours per week.
- Library Trustees recommended the Librarian increase.
- Solar has been installed, they are waiting on Eversource to get things hooked up.
- The front steps to the Library need repair. These are all concrete it is an expensive fix.

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- Blisters for books was briefly discussed. The books purchased with the fundraised monies are used by the Library and the School.
- Various questions were asked and answered.

Parks & Playground - The following topics were reviewed and discussed:

- The budget committee reviewed and asked various questions concerning the Chase beach personnel. The programs the Recreation Commission proved are separate from the Town budget items. The Select Board does the hiring of all personnel. It was noted the Recreation Commission is hoping lifeguards and swimming lessons can take place the summer of 2024. It has been difficult to hire any lifeguards in the past few years. There is a shortage and many area aquatic centers are in the same boat.
- The Recreation Commission has monthly reports from the Recreation Director. Any member is welcome to come and review them in the Town Office.

Conservation Commission – They are asking for the same budget as last year.

There being no further departments scheduled at this time Chair Jones opened the floor for general discussion.

At 8:25PM Mr. Graham moved to adjourn. Seconded by Ms. Greenway. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted, Dina