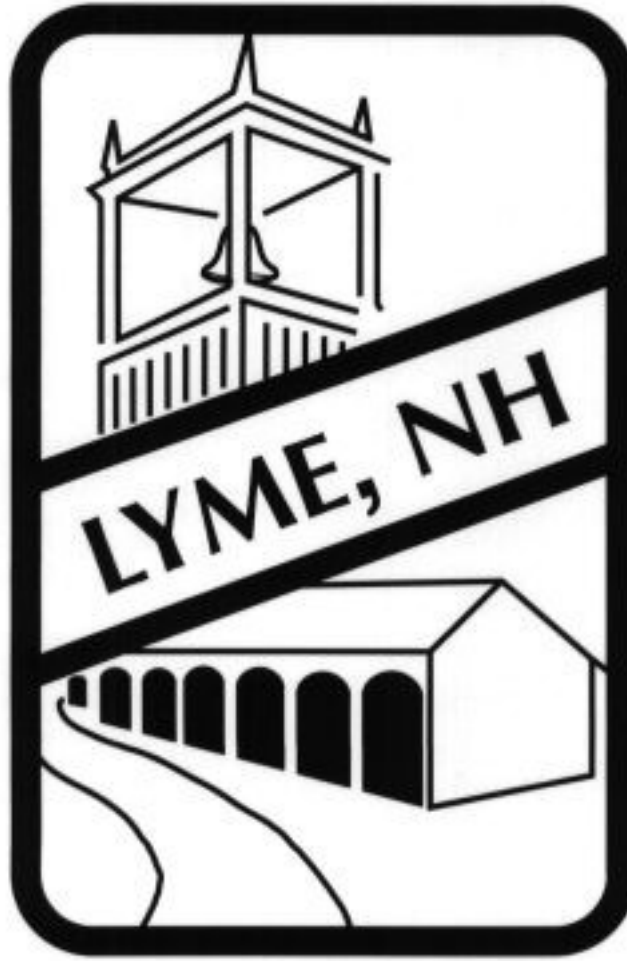


LYME SCHOOL DISTRICT



MINUTES FOR MARCH 5 & MARCH 10, 2009 SCHOOL MEETINGS

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 5, 2009

MINUTES

Moderator Bill Waste called this meeting to order at 7:03 P.M. in the Lyme School Community Gymnasium. There were approximately 150 attendees.

Representing the School Board were Peter Glenshaw, Chair; Mark Schiffman, Vice Chair, Audrey Brown, Secretary; Tom Goodrich, Dan Parish and Kevin Kerin.

Also in attendance were Gordon Schnare, Superintendant of SAU #76 and Jeffrey Valence, Principal of Lyme School. Mr. Schnare was given *Voice without Vote* for the purposes of communicating administrative issues at this meeting.

Moderator Waste reviewed the slate of officers to be voted on at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 1. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or other officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.

Moderator Waste MOVED TO APPROVE Article 1.

Motion was SECONDED

Article 1 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 2. Brian Cook made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate the amount of Four Million, Five Hundred Twenty-three Thousand, Eight Hundred Seventy-eight Dollars (4,523,878) as an operating budget for the Lyme School District for the 2009 – 2010 school year, as submitted by the Budget Committee. This article does not include the amounts requested in Article 3, but does include the amounts included in Article 7. The School Board recommends this appropriation.

Motion was SECONDED

School Board Chair Glenshaw offered a detailed *power-point* presentation of the proposed school budget. This budget is presented with a 0% increase, the lowest in 7 years. The Board predicts a 0% impact on the 2010 property taxes.

High School tuitions are increasing with Hanover High School the most expensive. Thetford Academy tuition is also rapidly increasing due to the expansion project. Most Lyme children attending high school are at Hanover at this time. High School age population is increasing. The High School Trust Fund enables Lyme to deal with the impact of these increasing costs. Fund balance in the Trust Fund is approximately \$500,000.00. Data on this fund is received annually. The ability to draw from this fund is what keeps the property tax impact manageable.

Special Education costs vary from year to year depending on need. Currently these expenditures are approximately 11.8% lower. High School Special Education is down about \$125,000 and

K-8 is approximately down about \$17,000.

Teacher contracts, health benefits, Library relations, salaries, fuel costs, building costs and food service activity were discussed.

Numerous comments and questions were generated from members of the public and addressed by Board members or Superintendent of Schools.

Brian Cook offered a FRIENDLY AMENDMENT to adjust the bottom line budget amount to \$4,487,260.00.

SECONDED-Accepted as friendly amendment.

Discussion continued with Superintendent Schnare confirming that you can overspend a line item but not the bottom line except in certain circumstances.

Questions regarding special education and support aides for special education needs led to affirmation that Lyme is legally liable to provide this service. It is a state requirement.

Jeff Lehmann made the MOTION to amend the budget by reducing the total budget by \$50,000.00 and that the School Board makes every effort to take these funds from administrative expenses.

SECONDED

More discussion followed this motion.

**MOTION ON PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO REDUCE BUDGET BY \$50,000.00
VOTED IN THE NEGATIVE BY VOICE VOTE**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT FRIENDLY AMENDMENT BUDGET ADJUSTMENT TO
\$4,487,260.00 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE**

ARTICLE 3. Brian Cook made the MOTION that the Lyme School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Lyme School Board and the Lyme Teachers Association for school years 2009 – 2010, 2010 – 2011 and 2011 – 2012 and agree to be legally bound to pay such cost items for all years of the agreement, which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>% INCREASE</u>	<u>ESTIMATED AMOUNT</u>
2009 – 2010	6.0%	\$71,646
2010 – 2011	4.0%	\$50,718
2011 – 2012	3.7%	\$48,621

AND, further, to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-one Thousand, Six Hundred Forty-six Dollars (\$71,646) to fund the cost attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. The School Board recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

Significant discussion and clarification followed the presentation of this article.

Tim Cook MADE THE REQUEST TO VOTE ON ARTICLE 3 BY PAPER BALLOT

SECONDED

Moderator Waste instructed that this request had to be in writing and have at least 5 signatures of registered voters. This was received by the Clerk.

Article 3 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY PAPER BALLOT:

Total of Ballots Cast: 133 YES 85 NO 48

ARTICLE 4. Brian Cook made the MOTION to see if the Lyme School District, if Article 3 is defeated, will authorize the governing body to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only. The School Board recommends this article.

MOTION PASSED OVER—NOT NEEDED

ARTICLE 5. Brian Cook made the MOTION that the Lyme School District vote to designate the School Board as agents to expend from the Maintenance of School Buildings Capital Reserve Fund, established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 14, 1996, for the purpose of maintenance of school buildings. The School Board recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

It was confirmed that Trustees of the Trust Funds still invest these monies as with other Trust Funds. If the School Board needed to spend money from this fund a special hearing would have to be held.

ARTICLE 5 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 6. Brian Cook made the MOTION that the Lyme School District vote to designate the School Board as agents to expend from the High School Tuition Expendable Trust Fund, established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 9, 1995, for the purpose of paying high school tuition. The School Board recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 6 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 7. Brian Cook made the MOTION to determine and fix the salaries of school district officers as follows: School District Treasurer \$800.00; School District Clerk \$75.00; School District Moderator \$75.00. The amounts in this article are included in Article 2. The School Board recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 7 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 8. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Peter Glenshaw recognized and thanked outgoing Board members Tom Goodrich and Kevin Kerin for their significant help while on the board. They were given a round of applause.

Several people commended the School Board for their diligence and efforts in providing a budget that was acceptable.

This meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M.

Patricia G. Jenks
School District Clerk

LYME SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORD OF ELECTION OF OFFICERS MARCH 10, 2009

To choose by ballot a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, each to serve one year and three Members of the School Board, each to serve three years.

OFFICERS ELECTED

MODERATOR-One Year

Bill Waste

TREASURER-One Year

Dina Cutting

CLERK-One Year

Patricia G. Jenks

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS-Three Years

Kate Semple Barta
Audrey Brown
Lou Ann Conroy

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia G. Jenks, School District Clerk



FARM STAND ON RIVER ROAD
(Photo: Adair Mulligan)