

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
September 17, 2025
In person and Zoom
Public Meeting
Approved: October 15, 2025

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Budget Committee Members: Richard Jones, Selectboard rep: Judy Brotman, Jennifer Boylston, School rep: Kristin Roth, Phil Kinsler, Rich Brown, Stacey Summerfield.

Vince Berk & Katie Stokes (via zoom)

Administrator: Dina Cutting. Assessing clerk Jordan Toland (via zoom)

School: Janet Mitchell (SAU Finance Director) Mary Beth Banios (Superintendent)

Community members: None present

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

1. Mr. Brown moved to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing of February 5th, 2025. Seconded by Ms. Roth. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.
2. Nominations for the Chair were offered as followed-
Mrs. Brotman moved to nominate Richard Jones as Chair. Seconded by Ms. Boylston. No other nominations were offered at this time. The motion was voted unanimously in favor.
Mrs. Brotman moved to appoint William Malcolm as Vice Chair. Ms. Boylston seconded. Voted unanimously in favor.
3. It was the sense of the committee that the draft schedule should be fine. As in past years there can be adjustments made as needed.
4. Town Budget: Mrs. Brotman reviewed the 2025 Town Budget spent to date. Mrs. Brotman noted the Select Board voted to install the flashing caution sign at the School/Library crossing. There may not be enough funds to do this in 2025 but they plan to in 2026 if the funds are available. The Budget of 2025 has 35% left to spend. This is on target, but concerns were noted by Mrs. Brotman that this is a very tight budget and things will depend on winter storms, vehicle break downs etc. There are some significant road projects to be considered in the coming years. The Highway department is working on getting the crosswalk repainted as soon as possible.
5. School Budget:
 - The school will have \$93,796.00, left to be applied to reduce taxes.
 - The school gave an update on the construction projects that happened at the school this summer. There are a few small projects' that still need to be completed, but overall, the project is looking great. They are now trying to finish up the punch list. This project will come in within the projected budget.

6. Discussion of goals for 2026:

- Town Budget challenges were discussed. Projects that should happen in 2026 were briefly discussed. Capital Reserve Funds were briefly discussed; there is a need to start thinking about increasing these funds. As the Select Board noted last year the vehicle and heavy equipment will need to be increased significantly to meet the upcoming needs. The Select Board will be presenting these needs at an up coming meeting.
- 2026 Insurance numbers for the Town should be coming in with in the next 2 weeks.
- The bond bank sold the school bond and this created a revenue that will be applied to the bond payments. The heating system and air quality improvements were discussed.
- The school now has two bonds with 10-year left on each.
- Ms. Roth brought to the attention of the committee that New Hampshire State laws have proposed changes that could directly affect the Town of Lyme. So, keeping an eye on that is important.
- At 7:52PM Mrs. Brotman moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Gray