

Town of Lyme
Budget Committee
January 7th, 2026
In person and Zoom
Public Meeting
Approved January 14th, 2026

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Budget Committee Members: Richard Jones, Select Board rep. Judy Brotman, Phil Kinsler, Rich Brown, Bill Malcolm, Jennifer Boylston, Vince Berk, Brian Spence, Stacey Summerfield, School rep. Kristin Roth and Katie Stokes

Administrator: Dina Cutting

Town Staff: Select Board/Assessing Clerk Jordan Gray, Select Board Member David Kahn

School: Superintendent: Mary Beth Banios. (by zoom) Principal: John D'Etrement

School Board members: Fielding Essensa, Toby Summerfield, Elisabeth Glenshaw, Leigh Prince and Murry Washburn.

Community members: (zoom) Sean Uiterwyk, Aaron Rich.

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

1. Mrs. Brotman moved to approve the minutes of the public meeting on December 17th, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Berk. The motion was voted eight in favor, zero against and one abstention (Mr. Brown abstained).
2. As requested by the budget committee, Superintendent Mary Beth Banios presented the proposed school operating budget showing budget reduction scenarios (*see attachment for more details*).
 - 5% increase from the school budget voted at the 2025 Town Meeting would include: an increase in meal cost by 50 cents, bring the high school trust fund to target, eliminate district contribution to 8th grade trip and summer regular education academic program, and renegotiate bus contract.
 - 4.88% increase from the school budget voted at the 2025 Town Meeting would include: everything listed above except an increase meal cost by \$1 (instead of \$0.50).
 - 4% increase from the school budget voted at the 2025 Town Meeting would include: everything listed above and a reduction in a special education teacher.
 - 3% increase from the school budget voted at the 2025 Town Meeting would include: everything listed above except the High School Trust Fund would be tapped into more leaving the balance below target.
 - The school feels that cutting any service or position would negatively affect the students and the efficiency of how that district is run.
3. At the next regular meeting on January 14th, 2026, it is expected for the committee to review the school budget, school money warrant articles, town budget, and town money warrant articles.

4. At 9:00PM Mrs. Broman moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Kinsler. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Jordan Gray