

# **TOWN OF LYMAN**

## **Budget Hearing**

### **February 4, 2020**

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lyman, in the County of Grafton, and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in the Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Town Hall in said Town on TUESDAY, the TENTH day of MARCH 2020; polls to open at ELEVEN O'CLOCK in the morning and will not close before SIX O'CLOCK in the evening in said Town Hall, to act on Article 1; the remaining Articles to be considered at SEVEN O'CLOCK in the evening.

**Article 1.** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

On Tuesday, the 4<sup>th</sup> of February 2020, the Town of Lyman held its annual Budget Hearing at the Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Selectman Chairman, Bruce Beane. He thanked all for coming and also introduced Tabbetha Shosa who will be taking over for Donna Clark this summer when she retires. The others in attendance were Selectman, Jim Trudell, Selectman Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy, Administrative Assistant, Donna Clark. Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Bethany Carignan, took the meeting minutes.

There were 13 people in the audience. They were given an overview of the past year's expenses and future year's goals. Trudell began by saying that the taxes are estimated to be increased by \$50,927 this year. The total tax appropriation is 771,277. We have an estimated fund balance of \$100,000 and estimated revenues of \$301,725 to apply toward it. This will translate to an approximate tax increase of \$.85 per \$1,000 of value.

**Article 2.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fourteen Thousand Eight Hundred Seven Dollars (\$414,807) to defray Town charges for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

<b>Executive</b>	<b>63,895</b>
<b>Election, Reg., Vital Statistics</b>	<b>40,745</b>
<b>Financial Administration</b>	<b>46,405</b>
<b>Legal Expenses</b>	<b>18,000</b>
<b>Personnel Administration</b>	<b>63,550</b>
<b>Planning</b>	<b>5,245</b>
<b>Zoning</b>	<b>3,325</b>
<b>General Government Buildings</b>	<b>22,530</b>
<b>Cemeteries</b>	<b>11,500</b>
<b>Insurance otherwise not allocated</b>	<b>12,503</b>
<b>Advertising &amp; Regional Assoc.</b>	<b>2,810</b>
<b>Other General Government</b>	<b>700</b>
<b>Ambulance</b>	<b>7,995</b>
<b>Fire</b>	<b>26,750</b>
<b>Emergency Management</b>	<b>4,000</b>
<b>Solid Waste Disposal</b>	<b>50,140</b>
<b>Health Officer</b>	<b>850</b>

<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>2,215</b>
<b>Health Agencies</b>	<b>5,784</b>
<b>Welfare Administration</b>	<b>670</b>
<b>Welfare Vendor Payments</b>	<b>2,900</b>
<b>Library</b>	<b>1,700</b>
<b>Patriotic Purposes</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>Other Culture</b>	<b>2,550</b>
<b>Conservation</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>Principal on Long Term Notes</b>	<b>8,275</b>
<b>Interest on Long Term Notes</b>	<b>1,920</b>
<b>Interest on TAN</b>	<b>7,500</b>

Trudell showed on the projector screen a summary of the cost of each warrant article and then went line by line through each item in Article 2. Items of interest are as follows. \*Diana McGrath was hired as the new Deputy Town Clerk at the end of 2019 and has some more trainings to attend. \*The town is putting more money into legal expenses to look into a contract lawyer. The town is not looking to take students out of Lisbon but to look into renegotiating the current school contract. \*Zoning Board of Adjustment budget is up due to more zoning variances than we have had in the past. \*General government buildings is down \$10,000. \*Cemeteries monies will stay the same this year as money is being set aside to fix stones every year. There are a number of stones that cannot be fixed. \*Sanitation is up \$3200. Clark mentioned that the town buys trash bags at full cost for a convenience of selling them to the towns people here at the town hall. \*Trudell went through all the Health agencies that the town supports. This line item is up \$570. \*There is a \$41,356 principal balance left to pay on the Dodge Pond Dam loan after the 2020 payment. This is our only loan and it will mature in 2025. \*Interest on borrowing money to pay the school tax and town obligations is up \$2,500.

**Article 3.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Two Hundred Dollars (\$271,200) for maintenance, expenses, salaries, supplies, equipment and street lighting for the Highway Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

<b>Highway Administration</b>	<b>\$140,750</b>
<b>Highway Maintenance</b>	<b>\$129,850</b>
<b>Street Lighting</b>	<b>\$ 600</b>

The town is looking to expand the part time position to include help during the winter months so Tom and Ed can take some time off and for coverage in case of illness or an emergency. The cost of repairs and maintenance is up. Also the cost of winter sand and road salt. This line item is up \$3,000.

**Article 4.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$45,000) to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

This article is so the town does not have to borrow money to replace equipment. Tom and Ed take good care of the equipment and everything is in good running condition. They are looking into replacing the loader in 2021 because of its age.

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in the Road Material Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

The road material and crushing has been going great. They have a good mix of sand and rock now. They will continue to use the ledge pack and upgrade the roads. The towns crew will continue to use the geo mesh where needed and this product helps greatly with pot holes.

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Bridge Replacement & Repair Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

There are currently no bridges on the red list. Bridges are looking great and this money is to deflect the cost of tax payers if a bridge is in need of repair.

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to be placed in the Building Repair & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

This is to help build capital reserve for our town buildings. Possibly one day fixing the Grange Hall.

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000) to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

This year brings a statistical revaluation update. The normal cost is \$27,000 to \$30,000. There is money in the account to cover the cost this year. This article will go towards rebuilding the account.

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to be placed in the Transfer Station Equipment & Repair Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

We share the cost with Lisbon and Landaff of the transfer station. The transfer station needed to buy equipment in the past and there was no account to draw from. This money will be put aside to help with future costs.

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$270) to support Tri-County CAP's Homeless Intervention and Prevention Programs, a community service program provided by Tri-County Community Action Program, Inc. (Inserted by Petition) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

The selectman are supporting this petition of \$270.

**Article 11.** To see if the Town will vote to adopt RSA 76:15-a, which provides for the semi-annual collection of taxes. If adopted, partial payment of the taxes assessed on April 1 in any tax year shall be computed by taking the prior year's assessed valuation times 1/2 of the previous year's tax rate; provided, however, that whenever it shall appear to the selectmen or assessors that certain individual properties have physically changed in valuation, they may use the current year's appraisal times 1/2 the previous year's tax rate to compute the partial payment. This change will take effect as of April 1, 2021. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Lyman is one of the few towns left that only sends out taxes once a year. This is to help offset the cost of borrowing money to pay the school tax bill and town obligations from May until Nov.

**Article 12.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

Jim thanked Donna for all her hard work and she will be greatly missed. Town voting will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 11 am – 6pm. Town meeting will be held at 7pm. Bruce Beane thanked all for coming and closed the meeting at 7:47 pm.

Given under our hands and seal this 4th day of February, 2020.

The Lyman Board of Selectmen

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Bruce Beane, Chairman

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James Trudell

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Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy

Respectfully submitted,  
Bethany Carignan, Lyman Town Clerk