

## Selectmen's Minutes

### TOWN OF LYMAN 2015 ANNUAL MEETING - MARCH 10, 2014

#### Minutes prepared by Town Clerk Carol Messner

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 2015; 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.

Present were Moderator: Phil Clark, Selectmen Chairman: Jim Trudell, Selectman: Steve Moscicki, Selectman: Bruce Beane, Administrative Assistant (AA): Donna Clark, and Town Clerk/Tax Collector (TC/TX): Carol Messner. At 7:00 pm Moderator Clark called the meeting to order, introduced himself, welcomed all, reviewed procedures of order and thanked all for coming. He recognized Selectman Trudell who called attention to the dedication of the 2014 Annual Report to Tom Smith and Scott Stuart, our Highway Road Agent and Crew. He explained how valuable they are and how thankful we all are to have them. They take pride in their work and it shows. Moderator Clark then read the results of Article 1.

The following were chosen as Town Officers for the ensuing year:

Selectman (1) (three year term): James Trudell \*44 votes  
Planning Board (2) (three year term): Les Poore \*44 votes and Brian Wohlleb \*34 votes  
Board of Adjustment (2) (three year term): Michael O'Brien \*42 votes and Patricia Slavtcheff \*38 votes  
Board of Adjustment (1) (two year term): Brian Santy \*2 votes  
Board of Adjustment (1) (one year term): Brian Santy \*2 votes  
Trustee of the Trust Funds (1) (3 year term): Sandra Moscicki \*42 votes  
Trustee of the Trust Funds (1) (2 year term): Nancy Landry \*2 votes

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Eighty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Forty-Seven Dollars (\$383,547) to defray Town charges for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Executive - 47,820  
Election, Reg., Vital Statistics - 36,616  
Financial Administration - 37,655  
Legal Expenses - 3,000  
Personnel Administration - 61,280  
Planning - 5,755  
Zoning - 1,300  
General Government Buildings - 59,205  
Cemeteries - 7,000  
Insurance otherwise not allocated - 8,000

Advertising & Regional Assoc. - 2,035  
Other General Government - 700  
Ambulance - 7,862  
Fire - 18,950  
Emergency Management - 7,620  
Solid Waste Disposal - 48,160  
Health Officer - 1,180  
Animal Control - 1,530  
Health Agencies - 4,909  
Welfare Administration - 680  
Welfare Vendor Payments - 3,000  
Parks and Recreation - 110  
Library - 1,200  
Patriotic Purposes - 100  
Other Culture - 2,400  
Conservation - 200  
Principal on Long Term Notes - 8,275  
Interest on Long Term Notes - 3,505  
Interest on TAN - 3,500

Moderator Clark read the Article aloud. It was moved by John Murray and seconded by Bryson Yawger. The audience of 23 people viewed the "2014 Net Appropriation - Actual & 2015 Budget Summary - Proposed" form which was displayed on the overhead projector. Trudell noted that the 2015 proposed budget is \$22,276 more than the 2014 budget. This would mean approximately a \$.33 per \$1,000 increase in taxes however the School Budget taxes are projected to be reduced by \$.56 per \$1,000 so they are hoping the town tax and the school tax combination will result in an overall reduction in taxes again this year. He explained that the Town Hall building addition is not complete but with the approval of 2015 funds we should see completion this summer. Selectman Beane added that he anticipates future savings from the newly installed heating and lighting systems. They also plan to replace the septic holding tank with a State approved septic system. This will eliminate annual pumping of the holding tank. They will continue with the road work of ditching, grading, maintaining culverts, laying out ledge pack, mowing, and spraying calcium chloride. They will not crush ledge pack this year as they laid out 3,000 yards in 2014 and have 3,000 yards stockpiled. They will return to the crushing schedule in 2016. Resident Tim Carignan asked for an explanation in the Personnel Administration line item increase and was told the 4 employees were given a 3% increase but most of the increase is from adding one person to our insurance plan coverage. Resident Yawger asked for an explanation for the General Government Building line item increase and was told that is due to the building addition completion and the proposed septic system. Trudell then went line by line down through the "2014 Actual & 2015 Proposed Budget" Summary which he displayed on the overhead projector. He mentioned that they received a bid on mowing at a good price. The Assessing budget was returned to its normal annual amount after having seen a reduced fee in 2014. The Firefighting budget is up \$500. We pay by the fire but the amount is capped. The Lisbon landfill recycling expenses are projected to increase and thus our share has increased. They increased the Animal Control Officer budget by \$265. Lisbon Main Street and Lisbon Lions Club donations were increased. Our only debt is the Dodge Pond dam and we will owe \$82,713 on that loan after the 2015 payment. Article 2 is up by \$46,353 due mainly to the building addition, septic system and added health insurance.

Clark called for any further discussion. With none, he re-read the Article and called

for a vote. All ayes. Article 2 was PASSED and closed.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Twenty Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Dollars (\$220,390) for maintenance, expenses, salaries, supplies, equipment and street lighting for the Highway Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by Selectmen)

Highway Administration - 108,590

Highway Maintenance - 111,250

Street Lighting - 550

Clark read the Article aloud which was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Bryson Yawger. Trudell mentioned again the planned 3% salary increase for the Road Agent and Crew and praised their work. Richard Hubbard is the highway temporary help and he also does a great job. There will be no blasting or crushing this year. They will lay out the 3,000 yards of ledge pack they have stockpiled. Diesel was very high in 2014 and they hope it will be lower in 2015. They postponed purchasing a new 10-wheeler as the 6-wheeler is still good. We used one and a half times the amount of sand we used the previous winter. They are working on the Bridge Replacement Program. Three bridges have been red-flagged but only one needs actual repair. The other two need certification to prove that they meet specifications. By adding this \$25,000 to the Bridge Replacement Fund balance, and adding one more appropriation in 2016, we should have enough to repair that one bridge. It is on Mountain Meadows Rd.

Clark called for any further discussion. With none, he re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 3 was PASSED and closed.

Article 4. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Clark read the Article aloud. It was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Gerard Landry. Trudell displayed and reviewed the "2015 Equipment Replacement Fund". In order to continue following the Schedule we would need to add \$50,000 to the fund. Resident, Patricia Barry, asked where to find the Fund balances and was directed to page 34 in the Annual Report. The current balance is \$78,230.82. Some discussion about 10 versus 6 wheelers was had between Trudell and Residents Yawger, Richard Hubbard and Tom Messner. Would one ten wheeler and one six wheeler be better than two ten wheelers? Would a ten wheeler be more difficult when plowing snow? A ten wheeler is actually the same truck with an extra 4 to 5 feet in length. Trudell says Road Agent Smith will make the ultimate decision but all agree the 10 wheeler saves time and fuel and is actually very maneuverable.

Clark called for any further discussion. With none, he re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 4 was PASSED and closed.

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 Highway Bridge Replacement & Repair Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Clark read the Article aloud. It was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Flo

Corey. The Bridge Replacement Plan and the Bridge Replacement Fund was discussed earlier in the evening. Trudell repeated that this \$25,000 is necessary to have enough in the fund for the anticipated repairs. Resident Yawger clarified which bridge needs repair and was told the corrugated bridge on Mountain Meadows Rd.

Clark called for any further discussion. With none, he re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 5 was PASSED and closed.

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) to go into the fund. This sum to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Clark read the Article. It was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Bryson Yawger. New State legislative rules allow us to create a fund for unanticipated expenses. This contingency fund, if not needed, would be returned to the general fund. Any expenditures would need to be reported. The amount would need to be raised and appropriated and voted upon each year.

There was no further discussion so Clark re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 6 was PASSED and closed.

Article 7. 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)

Clark read the Article. It was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Gerard Landry. Trudell stated that the revaluation price quoted was better than anticipated and half was paid out of the fund last year and half will be this year. The revaluation is State mandated.

There was no further discussion so Clark re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 7 was PASSED and closed.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to be placed in the Office & Computer Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Clark read the Article. It was moved by Tim Carignan and seconded by Nancy Labbay. Money is added to this fund each year in an attempt to be proactive.

There was no further discussion so Clark re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes. Article 8 was PASSED and closed.

Article 9. Resolved that the State of New Hampshire provide a comprehensive meaningful system of funding for State Education needs. To see if the Town will vote to ask our governor and state legislators to reform state funding for education with that reform to be directed to significant reduction of property taxes. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the Select Board to the governor and state legislators informing them of the instructions from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. (Majority vote required)

Clark read the Article. It was moved by Nancy Labbay and seconded by Bryson Yawger. Trudell thought this sounded like a good idea except for the fact that the always rising School tax is twice the amount of the Town tax. Costs are always increasing and State contributions to Towns are decreasing. Resident Yawger mentioned meeting Executive Councilor Joe Kenney at the bottom of Wetherbee Rd regarding the condition of the State owned and maintained Lyman Rd. Lyman is 85th in line for repairs in Kenney's area of NH and the State hasn't the funds to repair even those ahead of Lyman on the list. Trudell told about possibly turning it into a well maintained dirt road in the future. Resident Richard Lewis brought the conversation back to this Warrant Article. Resident Carignan asked if there was any plan which accompanied this Article and was told no. Resident T. Messner asked where this Article originated and was told it came from a Selectman in Webster, NH and it had some interest in several towns and possibly the backing of several State representatives. Messner said Town property taxes paying for our school costs is preferable to the State paying. We would have to pay the State in any case for the State to have the funds, and in so doing would gain a middle man and lose more control. If property tax does not cover the education costs, the State would create some other tax, income or sales, to cover the costs. Government closest to home is best he believes. Resident Larry Schieman thought this sounds like we are asking for a sales or income tax, or both, and how much property tax would it save us and for how long? Resident Yawger asked if Lisbon placed this Article on their warrant and was told they didn't know. Selectman Beane said it may come down to whether you feel the State will do a better job of handling your money or the Town. Resident Al Gombas interpreted the Article as saying we want the State to reform what they already have jurisdiction over. Resident Carignan said if property tax is reduced another way to get money, another form of tax, will be created by the State. Trudell said Lyman's State aid has also been decreasing.

There was no further discussion so Clark re-read the Article and called for a vote. All Nays. Article 9 was DEFEATED and closed.

Article 10. To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

Trudell announced the Lisbon School Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 18th at 7:00 pm. He thanked the Lyman Community Group for all their efforts and said the Dodge Pond Day was successful and fun. Resident Murray said the ledge used on several of the roads needs attention as this year's crushing left arrowheads which punctured two of his tires. Many agreed they had also lost tires. Trudell said it is a learning experience and they want to hear about the problems that residents experience. They are trying different crushing sizes and they are trying double rolling. The edges of the roadside are a problem. This year some of it could have been the result of a failed screen on the second round of crushing. Resident Landry, Chairman of the Lyman Community Group, thanked the Selectmen and everyone for supporting them and reminded all about getting their "Ice Out" raffle tickets. Yawger said we are blessed to have the Selectmen that we have. Trudell said we have a great town and really good people. We all know how to figure things out together. He is happy and proud to live in this town. With no further discussion on Article 10 Moderator Clark thanked all for coming and adjourned the meeting at 8:25pm.

Given under our hands and seal this 23rd day of March, 2015.

The Lyman Board of Selectmen

James Trudell, Chairman  
Stephen Moscicki  
Bruce Beane

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Messner, Lyman Town Clerk