

TOWN OF LYMAN
Budget Hearing
February 13, 2018

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 THIRTEENTH day of MARCH 2018; 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 13th of February 2018, there was a Budget Hearing held at the Lyman Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Jim Trudell, Selectman Chairman. He thanked all for coming. He introduced the others in attendance who were Selectman, Bruce Beane, Selectman, Steve Moscicki and Administrative Assistant, Donna Clark. Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Carol Messner, took the meeting minutes.

There were 9 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 will be increased by \$36,596.00 this year. This is due an actual budget raise of \$6,195 and a lowering of estimated revenues. This will translate to an approximate tax increase of \$.63 per \$1,000 of value. The overlay for abatements and the war service credits were increased. The war service credit will be renamed to the Veteran's credit since the credit no longer requires actual war service to qualify.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Ninety-One Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (\$391,872) to defray Town charges for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Executive	55,840
Election, Reg., Vital Statistics	45,060
Financial Administration	42,685
Legal Expenses	5,000
Personnel Administration	61,855
Planning	5,545
Zoning	2,570
General Government Buildings	35,365
Cemeteries	11,500
Insurance otherwise not allocated	12,656
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	2,450
Other General Government	700
Ambulance	7,862
Fire	25,500

Emergency Management	5,245
Solid Waste Disposal	40,850
Health Officer	1,180
Animal Control	2,120
Health Agencies	5,284
Welfare Administration	670
Welfare Vendor Payments	2,900
Parks and Recreation	110
Library	1,500
Patriotic Purposes	150
Other Culture	2,750
Conservation	200
Principal on Long Term Notes	8,275
Interest on Long Term Notes	2,550
Interest on TAN	3,500

Trudell showed on the overhead projector a summary of the cost of each warrant article and then went line by line thru each item in Article 2. Items of interest are as follows. There will be no gravel crushing this year but a capital reserve fund will be opened to offset the cost of blasting and crushing next year. * On Pettyboro Road, the existing pot-holed asphalt will be ground up and replaced with ledgepack. * The next statistical revaluation will be in 2020. * A new temporary help person will be sought for Donna Clark's position as Administrative Assistant to the Selectmen to begin training for the eventuality of Donna's retirement and to help with both Planning and Zoning Board tasks. * Fairpoint Communications is suing NH towns over telephone pole taxes which is affecting our legal budget. * Money from recycling is down. Lisbon Transfer Station is looking for a part-time person. * The fire budget, due to more expenses paid by Lyman, is up and is expected that it will be up again next year as they anticipate Lisbon will be getting a bond for the new fire station. * Health insurance costs went down, surprisingly. Employee contributions to health insurance remain the same. Employees received a 3% increase. * Regarding red-flagged bridges, the 1st bridge repair near Dale Colby's home on Pettyboro Rd was done a few years ago by the Town and went well. With that success, the Mountain Meadows bridge repair was attempted by the Town in 2017 but encountered water problems so help was needed. It is finished now, will last our lifetimes, cost \$185,000 and was paid for partly by a \$42,000 grant from the State. We didn't have to touch fund balances. In the end it was completed at half of another bridge company's estimate and at 1/3 of the State's estimated cost. * Selectmen want to begin to fix broken and fallen cemetery stones. * There is \$58,000 left to pay on the Dodge Pond Dam loan which will mature in 2025.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars (\$253,635) for maintenance, expenses, salaries, supplies, equipment and street lighting for the Highway Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Highway Administration	\$119,385
Highway Maintenance	\$133,650
Street Lighting	\$ 600

The temporary help person continues to be Richard Hubbard. They plan to grind up Pettyboro Road and replace the asphalt with ledgepack. Replacing the asphalt is cost prohibitive.

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)

This fund was created in order to put money away so that when the time comes to purchase a piece of equipment we have the money and will not need to borrow and pay interest. The International ten-wheeler truck has some body rust due to salt. In 2010 a new motor was installed. This truck may last us 20 years.

Article 5. To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of producing and purchasing Road Material, including blasting and crushing ledge at the town quarry, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be placed in this fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as Agents to Expend. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

There will be no crushing done in 2018. There was also no crushing done in 2017. In 2016 a double batch was crushed. We still have 5,000 yards stockpiled.

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 Building Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Building expenses could possibly include 3 more energy conserving windows or new paneling in the big hall. The ceiling in the big hall also has some issues when ice melts.

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)

The next statistical revaluation will be in 2020.

Article 8. To see if the Town will vote to endorse the appointment by the Board of Selectmen of a committee for the purpose of investigating and evaluating educational alternatives to the current Lisbon Regional School District, including legal issues, financial considerations, availability of alternatives and other related matters, and to instruct the committee to prepare a report of their findings for presentation at a meeting to be announced and posted. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Although not a budget item this topic generated a lot of discussion. Trudell said the school taxes are out of control. Phil Clark, resident, asked if the committee would be composed of only Lyman residents or if it would include Lisbon and Landaff residents

as well. David Simpson, a resident interested in forming the committee, reported some school statistics and said the committee would meet at no cost to the town. Tuition, transportation, a full school board, the number of representatives, the breaking away from Lisbon and associated problems were some of the items discussed. The meeting was adjourned at 8pm but all continued the school discussions until 8:10pm

Article 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

The School Board Meeting is scheduled for February 21st with a Bond Hearing at 6:30 pm and the regular school budget meeting at 7 pm.

Given under our hands and seal this 13th day of February, 2018.

The Lyman Board of Selectmen

James Trudell, Chairman

Bruce Beane

Stephen Moscicki

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Messner, Lyman Town Clerk