

TOWN OF LYMAN
Budget Hearing
February 12, 2019

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 TWELFTH day of MARCH 2019; 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 12th of February 2019, there was a Budget Hearing held at the Lyman Town Hall. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Selectman Chairman, Bruce Beane. He thanked all for coming. The others in attendance were Selectman, Jim Trudell, Selectman, Steve Moscicki and Administrative Assistant, Donna Clark. Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Carol Messner, 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 \$34,651 this year. The total tax appropriation is \$726,419. We have \$100,000 fund balance and estimated revenues of \$287,285 to apply toward it. This will translate to an approximate tax increase of \$.58 per \$1,000 of value.

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Ninety-Four Dollars (\$415,494) to defray Town charges for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Executive	63,840
Election, Reg., Vital Statistics	40,460
Financial Administration	52,860
Legal Expenses	8,000
Personnel Administration	64,800
Planning	5,545
Zoning	2,030
General Government Buildings	32,530
Cemeteries	11,500
Insurance otherwise not allocated	10,825
Advertising & Regional Assoc.	2,805
Other General Government	700
Ambulance	7,995
Fire	28,750
Emergency Management	4,150
Solid Waste Disposal	46,850
Health Officer	850

Animal Control	2,165
Health Agencies	5,264
Welfare Administration	670
Welfare Vendor Payments	2,900
Library	1,700
Patriotic Purposes	150
Other Culture	2,450
Conservation	200
Principal on Long Term Notes	8,275
Interest on Long Term Notes	2,230
Interest on TAN	5,000

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. Selectman budget increase includes part time office help and training and a new portable 4-station voting booth. * Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Carol Messner, will be leaving at her term end in March. Trudell thanked her and all applauded. The Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Bethany Carignan, has placed her name on the March 12th ballot for the open position. There will be auditor costs to close out the outgoing Tax Collector's books. A Deputy will be sought and hired. A new computer program with support will be purchased to upgrade vehicle registration and dog registration functions costing approximately \$9,000. * There is only one Town election this year. * Health insurance costs went up \$2,945. Employee contributions to their health insurance costs remain the same at 12%. * Employees received a 3% increase. * Ambulance costs are based on population. * The fire budget, due to more fires, is up and Selectmen are in talks with Lisbon about possibly becoming a regional fire department. * Money from recycling is down. The situation may worsen if Casella closes its doors and we are forced to transport trash to Berlin or Concord. * Selectmen began to fix broken and fallen cemetery stones in Center Cemetery. Some replacement stones were obtained at a discount from rejected military supply. The original replaced stones will also be retained. * There is a \$49,627 principal balance left to pay on the Dodge Pond Dam loan after the 2019 payment. This is our only loan and it will mature in 2025. * There was less collected in timber tax than anticipated, less money coming from the State and less revenue from recycling. Interest rates on unpaid tax will also be legislatively reduced as of April 1.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty-Five Dollars (\$247,925) 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	\$122,275
Highway Maintenance	\$125,050
Street Lighting	\$ 600

Scott Stuart retired this year and Ed Parker from Littleton was hired to fill his vacancy. Ed is very good with snow plowing, vehicle mechanics, is knowledgeable, hard-working and is a nice guy. The \$50,000 we normally put into the Town Equipment

Fund was eliminated this year and the money instead put into crushing. The plan is to crush 10,000 yards which should last 3 years. We used a lot of ledgepack on Pettyboro Road in 2018. Selectmen have worked very hard to solve the arrowhead problem. Beane spoke and recapped their ongoing efforts. This year's crush should be good. The normal activities of roadside mowing, ditching, culverts, grading and putting down ledgepack will also be continued.

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

There was no crushing done in 2017 or 2018. This year the amount normally put into the Town Equipment Fund will instead be put into this Road Material Fund. We had 5,000 yards stockpiled at the beginning of 2018 and used a lot on Pettyboro Road. They plan to crush 10,000 yards this year which should last 3 years.

Article 5. 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)

We replaced the one bridge on the State "red" list. There were two others on the list but turned out just to be needing paperwork. There are no red list bridges left. We are putting this amount into a fund for possible bridge repairs in the future.

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

Building expenses could possibly include more work in the big hall. The Grange may be looked at in future years.

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 Transfer Station Equipment & Repair Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

We were obligated to put money towards the Lisbon Transfer Station compactor. We share costs now with Lisbon. This fund is for anticipated equipment and repair costs.

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)

The next statistical revaluation update will be in 2020. The cost is between \$27,000 and \$30,000.

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

Trudell introduced Tom Smith, resident, to speak on behalf of The School Tax Rate and Quality Education Committee, formed by the Selectmen to gather information on

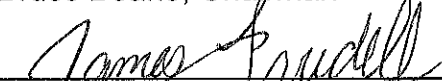
reducing our School taxes. Tom is Chairman of the group. He said our hands are tied by State mandates. Lisbon is not willing to raise their taxes in order to lower ours even though Lyman only has +/- 50 children in the school and the high percentage paid by Lyman does not represent that small percentage of children. Smith said they have fulfilled the purpose of the committee's creation and that they will likely disband. Several members will continue searching for a remedy but it will take time. There will be an Article on the Lisbon School Warrant asking if voters will increase the number of Lyman School representatives from 2 to 3 of the 9 total School Board members. He praised Craig Simpson for all his hard work in obtaining information for the committee. More money is needed back from Concord and Federal funds are down while the same Federal requirements remain. The Lisbon school budget will increase this year by approximately \$330,000 mostly due to Special Education. Bruce Beane called for further business and there was none. He thanked all for coming and he closed the meeting at 7:45pm.

Given under our hands and seal this 12th day of February, 2019.


The Lyman Board of Selectmen



Bruce Beane, Chairman

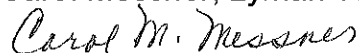


James Trudell



Stephen Moscicki

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Messner, Lyman Town Clerk



*Certified Original
Attest February 25, 2019
Carol M. Messner
Lyman Town Clerk*