

TOWN OF LYMAN

Town Meeting Warrant with Town Meeting Minutes

March 9, 2021

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 Highway Garage in said Town on TUESDAY, the NINTH day of MARCH 2021; polls to open at ELEVEN O'CLOCK in the morning and will not close before SIX O'CLOCK in the evening in said Town Highway Garage, 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.

In attendance were Selectman Chairman: Bruce Beane, Selectman, Jim Trudell, Selectman, Administrative Assistant, Tabbetha Shosa, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Bethany Carignan, took the meeting minutes. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Moderator Todd Landry. Landry welcomed all and thanked the Town Clerk, Administrative Assistant, Selectman and voting officials. He also thanked Tom and Ed for putting so much work into cleaning up the town garage so we could hold voting and town meeting in a bigger space due to COVID. Landry reviewed procedures of order. Moderator Landry then read the results of Article 1.

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

Selectman (1) (three year term):

Jim Trudell*	41 votes
Tomas S Smith	5
Brett Presby	1

Board of Adjustment (2) (3 year term)

Larry Schieman*	45 votes
Greg Harville *	2
Brett Presby	1
Med Chandler	1

Trustee of the Trust Funds (1) (3 year term)

Beth Hubbard	3 votes
Phil Clark	2
Kim Smith*	1
Cathy Colby	1
James Madru	1
Robert Meserve	1
Sheila Post	1
Wanda Hubbard	1

Article 2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixty-Eight Dollars (\$405,668) to defray Town charges for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Executive	\$58,505.00
Election, Reg., Vital Statistics	38,358.00
Financial Administration.....	47,974.00
Revaluation of Property	6,250.00
Legal Expenses	8,000.00
Personnel Administration.....	67,120.00
Planning.....	4,745.00
Zoning.....	2,325.00
General Government Buildings.....	20,330.00
Cemeteries	11,500.00
Insurance otherwise not allocated	12,503.00
Advertising & Regional Associations	2,810.00
Other General Government	700.00
Ambulance.....	7,995.00
Fire.....	26,750.00
Emergency Management.....	4,050.00
Solid Waste Disposal.....	50,720.00
Health Officer	850.00
Animal Control	2,264.00
Health Agencies.....	6,054.00
Welfare Administration.....	670.00
Welfare Vendor Payments.....	2,900.00
Library.....	1,700.00
Patriotic Purposes.....	150.00
Other Culture	2,550.00
Conservation.....	200.00
Principal on Long Term Notes	8,275.00
Interest on Long Term Notes	1,920.00
Interest on TAN.....	7,500.00

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. Trudell reviewed a summary of the expenses related to Warrant Article 2 and then presented a more in-depth review of each line item from Article 2. Trudell said the overall budget is up about \$4000.00 this year which is about 7 cents per thousand. Many of the line items from this Article are down this year. Major things happening this year will be laying out ledge pack that is already crushed and paid for. Grading of roads, ditching and

laying of culverts. Trudell also talked about replacing a bridge at Ogontz. Trudell gave an overview of the past year's expenses and future year's goals. Trudell then showed on the projector screen a summary of the cost of the warrant article and then went line by line through each item in Article 2. The total tax appropriation is \$862,214. A contribution of \$175,000 from the fund balance as well as estimated revenues totaling approximately \$331,315 will assist in keeping tax increases as manageable as possible. An estimated total of \$110,000 will remain in the fund balance. Overlay will remain the same at \$42,000 and will be used to cover expenses such as Abatements. The total estimated amount to be raised by taxes is \$413,664. Landry called for any discussion. There was mention about some money being in the trust funds for the cemeteries. The selectman are working on getting cemetery stones replaced. A question was asked about the other cultures budget line, for which some of the money is used for summer time cookout. Moderator Landry re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 2 passed**.

Article 3. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred Seventy-Three Thousand Five Hundred Twenty-Six Dollars (\$273,526) 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	\$143,076.00
Highway Maintenance.....	\$129,850.00
Street Lighting.....	\$600.00

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. Due to COVID the Town didn't hire a part time person in 2020. The town will look to expand the part time position to include help during the winter and summer months so that Road Agent, Tom Smith & Highway Crew Worker, Ed Parker are able to take time off when requested as well as provide necessary coverage in the case of illness or emergency. Trudell explained plans that Road Agent Smith has presented to the Board of Selectmen to continue necessary road maintenance and repairs and keep Lyman Roads in good shape. Also, the cost of winter sand and road salt. This line item is up \$2,326. Landry called for any discussion. There was no discussion. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 3 passed**.

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)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. This article is so the town does not have to borrow money to replace equipment. Trudell mentioned that even though the highway department did cut their spending in 2020 due to COVID that we still need to put money into the Capital Reserve Fund in case of emergency. The Town is expecting to replace the loader in 2022. Tom and Ed take good care of the equipment and everything is in good running condition. Landry

called for any discussion. Ed Santy said this is money well spent. Phil Clark made mention to the fact of how well the town's crew takes care of the equipment. Lisa Linowes asked about a resale value of the equipment. Wanda Hubbard mentioned that maybe the children of the town could name the trucks. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 4 passed.**

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)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. Trudell gave a brief history on the pit that the town owns and ledge packing the roads. The pit continues to save the town money every year. They will continue to use the ledge pack and upgrade the roads. Landry called for any discussion. There was none. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 5 passed.**

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) to be placed in the Bridge Replacement & Repair Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. These funds are intended to cover cost that the Town will incur for necessary Bridge Repair on the Ogontz Bridge located on the town road that travels through the Ogontz campground. The Selectman are expecting the cost of the bridge repair to be no more than \$140,000. The current balance in this Capital Reserve Fund is \$10,700. Landry called for any discussion. There were some concerns about the condition of the bridge and questioned whether or not it needed to be repaired now. Tom Smith, road agent let everyone know the condition of the bridge and that it would become a two-lane bridge. The Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 6 passed.**

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000) to be placed in the Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Beane and seconded by Selectman Trudell. Money goes into this fund yearly and is used to cover the additional expense of the Cyclical Revaluation. Landry called for any discussion. Only question was about the timing of the revaluation years. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 7 passed.**

Article 8. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 for the Ogontz Bridge repair, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$40,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to

authorize the municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; (3/5 ballot vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen).

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. Trudell explained this is a loan not to exceed \$40,000 to repair the Ogontz Bridge and will only be taken if needed. Moderator Landry to a brief break to vote. 36 Yes votes **Article 8 passed.**

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)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. Money goes into this fund yearly to cover necessary equipment replacement and repairs for the Lisbon Transfer Station. Lyman is a part of the transfer station along with Landaff and Lisbon. Lyman does get money back each year from recycling and the sale of trash bags. Landry called for any discussion. Some frustration was voiced about the transfer station not taking all the recycles it did in previous years. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 9 passed.**

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$2,500) to increase the compensation of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. This article is proposed to be approved in addition to the amount of Town Clerk/Tax Collector compensation included in the 2021 budget. (Inserted by Petition) (Majority vote required) (Not recommended by the Selectmen)

Moderator Landry read the Article and Town Clerk Bethany Carignan made a motion to pass over Article 10. Second by Selectman Trudell. Moderator Landry asked for questions on the motion. Celine Presby then made a motion to restrict the article and further discussion. Moderator Landry first called for a vote on the first motion to pass over the article. All ayes **Motion to pass over Article 10 passed.** Landry then returned to the second motion to restrict the article from any further discussion. Second by Brett Presby. Landry asked for questions on the motion. No discussion. Landry asked for discussion on the motion. No discussion. Landry then called for a vote on the motion. All ayes **Motion to restrict was passed.**

Article 11. To see if the Town will vote to discontinue completely and absolutely Echo Ledge Road pursuant to RSA 231:43. Echo Ledge Road is a dead-end road, which begins at an intersection with Ash Hill Road and travels approximately 1,864 feet to its end. An affirmative vote on this Article will terminate the public's right to use Echo Ledge Road, but under New Hampshire law, owners of the property abutting the road may continue to use the road at their own risk. All of the property surrounding Echo Ledge Road is currently owned by the same party. Written notice of this Article was provided by the Selectmen to the

owner of the property surrounding Echo Ledge Road more than 14 days prior to Town Meeting. (Inserted by Petition) (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. This is currently a dead-end Class 5 Town road that is maintained by the Town. The land owner who owns all the land abutting this road requested this change to the selectman to give the land owner privacy. This change should be a cost savings for the town as the town would no longer be responsible for maintaining Echo Ledge Road. Landry called for any discussion. There was concern that some land lots would become land locked and go against building codes unless it became a private road. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. The ayes have it. **Article 11 passed.**

Article 12. To see if the Town will vote to urge that the New Hampshire General Court, which is obligated to redraw the maps of political districts within the state following federal census, will ensure fair and effective representation of New Hampshire voters without gerrymandering. Additionally, these voters ask the town of Lyman to urge the NH General Court to carry out the redistricting in a fair and transparent way through public meetings, not to favor a particular political party, to include communities of interest, and to minimize multi-seat districts. The record of the vote approving this article shall be transmitted by written notice from the town officials to Lyman's State Legislators, informing them of the demands from their constituents within 30 days of the vote. (Inserted by petition) (3/5 Ballot vote required)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. A diagram was displayed showing the way in which current voting takes place. Trudell explained how voting might change should gerrymandering be allowed. Landry called for any discussion. Deb Bassett explained the state legislators wanted a fair open voting and not done behind closed doors. There were some discussions as to who added the article to be in every town in the state and why it was this year. After discussion the Moderator to a short break to vote. **48 yes 6 no Article 12 passed.**

Article 13. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to participate in a communications district planning committee under RSA Chapter 53-G to study the potential formation of a communications district with one or more other towns in the region for the purpose of facilitating the provision of fiber optic internet service to residents and businesses that will be needed for future growth in the region. The planning committee would consist of at least two people appointed by the Select Board from each participating town. A future town meeting vote would be required to formally create a communications district or to enter into contracts with any supplier. (Majority vote required)

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Trudell and seconded by Selectman Beane. State Representative, Tim Egan is currently working to help small towns in the area gain access to improved internet service. Landry called for any discussion. The

only question was to make sure that Lyman would not enter into any agreement without a vote. Moderator re-read the Article and called for a vote. All ayes **Article 13 passed.**

Article 14. To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

The school meeting is scheduled for March 17 at 7pm in the Lisbon Regional School gymnasium. Phil Clark congratulated Todd on a great job. No other discussion. Moderator Landry asked for a vote to adjourn. All were in favor. **Article 14 passed.**

The Lyman Town Meeting was adjourned at 8:47pm.

Given under our hands and seal this 9th day of March, 2021.

The Lyman Board of Selectmen

James Trudell, Chairman

Bruce Beane

Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Carignan, Lyman Town Clerk