

TOWN OF LYMAN  
Budget Hearing  
February 6, 2024  
2024 Town Meeting Warrant

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 Lyman Town Hall in said Town on TUESDAY, the TWELTH day of MARCH 2024; polls to open at ELEVEN OCLOCK in the morning and wilt 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 6th of February 2024, 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. The others in attendance were Selectman, Thomas S. Smith, Selectman Wendy Ho-Sing-L0% Advisor to the Select Board Greg Harvil/e, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Bethany Carignan, took the meeting minutes.

There were 15 people in the audience. Selectman Beane started by going through the budget line by line.

Article 2. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$432,532) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

|  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| Executive.....,.....,.....             | \$66,555.00      |
| Financial Administration .....         | 63,215.00        |
| Revaluation of Property .....          | 1 1,750.00       |
| Legal..                                | 5,000.00         |
| Personnel Administration.....          | 75,000.00        |
| Planning .....                         | 5,150.00         |
| Zoning .....                           | 2,465.00 General |
| Government Buildings .....             | 28,578.00        |
| Cemeteries.....,.....r,.....           |                  |
| Insurance otherwise not allocated .... | 1 7,150.00       |
| Advertising & Reg. Associations .....  | 2,400.00         |

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| Other General Government .....                     | 500.00                        |
| Ambulance .....                                    | 20,000.00                     |
| Fire .....   | 34,250.00                     |
| Emergency Management .....                         | 5,115.00                      |
| Solid Waste Disposal .....                         | 66,600.00                     |
| Health Officer ... 1 , 100.00 Animal Control... .. |                               |
| Health .....                                       | 5,934.00                      |
| Welfare Administration .....                       | 630.00 Welfare                |
| Vendor Payments .....                              | 700.00                        |
| Library .....                                      | 2,000.00                      |
| Patriotic Purposes .....                           | 500.00                        |
| Other Culture .... .                               | 2,800.00 Conservation         |
| ....., .....                                       | 400.00 <u>Interest on TAN</u> |
| ..... ..   | <u>500.00</u>                 |
|  | .....\$432,532.00             |

Beane went over the line Items. Due to increases in insurance and wages, this article is up \$27,955.00 No discussion.

Article 3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand and Seventeen Dollars (\$356,017) for maintenance, expenses, salaries, equipment and street lighting for the Highway Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

|                                      |                 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Highway Administration .....         | \$1 82,447.00   |
| Highway <del>Maintenance</del> ..... | \$172,850.00    |
| <u>Street Lighting</u> .....         | <u>\$720.00</u> |
| TOTAL... ..                          | \$356,017.00    |

Beane went over the fine items. Tim Carlgan asked if the retirement was being underpaid. Ho-Sing-Loy stated the Town doesn't pay into the state system and hasn't been contributing enough on a yearly basis, so the Town is increasing that amount up to 6% match on a yearly basis, Carlgan agreed with the Increase.

Article 3 is up due to Increases in insurance and wages. This article is up \$20, 187.00, No further discussion.

Article 4. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of FiftyTwo Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Three Dollars (\$52,773) for

expenses, salaries, supplies, and equipment for the Election, Registration & Vitals

Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

|                                       |                |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|
| Town Clerk-Tax Collector. ....        | \$38,333.00    |
| Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector ..... | .....          |
| \$7,920.00 Voter Registration.....    | ..             |
| \$6,520.00                            | TOTAL....., .. |
| <hr/>                                 |                |
| \$52,773.00                           |                |

Celine Presby had a question on the Clerk's salary, how much the Clerk made per hour, and the hours worked by the Clerk, stating that the Clerk only works a total amount of 18 hours a week. Presby didn't have a problem with total hours per week and wanted to be sure the number of hours would remain the same, Town Clerk Carignan answered by saying that she works more than 18 hours a week. Carignan's open window hours are a total of 18 a week, but she does work outside of the window hours, like bank deposits and post office trips, The Town has four elections this year and the Town Clerk does not receive any extra compensation for those extra hours worked. When the Town went to semiannual taxes, it doubled Carignan's work load and she doesn't receive any further compensation for that. The Clerk then stated that nearby towns with larger populations have clerk hours that are less than 18 hours per week. She cited Sugar Hill that has 10 hours per week. Presby asked how many weeks' vacation is included in the Town Clerk's salary. Carignan stated that she doesn't take any more time than anyone else does. Carignan further stated that NH Clerks, by RSA, are permitted to take as many vacation days as they would like. Carignan has also given thought to extending the hours on Wednesday until 4pm and shortening hours on Thursdays, but keeping the open window hours at 18. This would allow another day during the week for people to get to the clerk's office after work. These changes have yet to be decided, Tim Carignan asked why the Town Clerk's salary was under so much scrutiny when no one else's is. Ho-Sing-Loy replied in error by saying that the Town Clerk is the only elected position Donna Clark asked why the Deputies pay and Election is also included in the same warrant article. Harville answered by saying that they are all included under the Town Clerk's accounting code. No further discussion.

Article 5R To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

No discussion

Article 6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand Nine Hundred Five and 51/100 Dollars (\$13,905.51) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. These funds

represent a One Time Highway Block Grant payment received from the State of New Hampshire. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance. No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)  
No discussion

Article 7. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Road Material Capital Reserve Fund previously established. These funds represent an American Rescue Plan Act payment received from the Grafton County American Rescue Plan Fund. This sum to come from unassigned fund balance, No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Nancy Labbay asked what kind of material would be bought with the money. Beane said the Town would be looking to make more ledge pack. Labbay commented about the fact that the roads are a nightmare right now and is there anyway to put gravel back on the roads. Ledge pack is mixed with 25% gravel and seems to be a good mix. Labbay voiced concern that the ledge pack turns to slime when it is wet and is difficult to drive on. No further discussion,

Article 8, To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Road Material Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

No discussion

Article 9. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Six and 29/100 Dollars (\$5,176.29) to the Highway Bridge Replacement and Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established, These funds represent a One Time Bridge Repair Payment received from the State of New Hampshire, This sum to come from unassigned fund balance, No amount to be raised from taxation. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

No discussion

Article 10. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to the Transfer Station Equipment & Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

No discussion

Article 11 i To see if the town will vote to establish a Hazard Mitigation Plan Fund under the provisions of RSA 35: 1 -c to defray the quinquennial (+year) cost to update the town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be placed in this Fund. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

Clark asked if this was going into a capitol reserve fund. Harvjlle said this is a fund but is not purchasing anything. Clark recommends that the Board of Selectmen add their names to be agents to expend the fund. The Board will seek council on the wording of this article. No further discussion,

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

Beane made mention that he was glad to see everyone at the meeting, Celine mentioned that the town had \$17,000 still in the account from Ahead that should be spent. If anyone knows someone that needs anything fixed in their home, please have them reach out to the town. Carlgnan asked if there was any Idea if there was any fund balance or what the tax increase was going to ber Ho-Sino-Loy said they weren't sure of a fund balance yet and that the taxes may go up \$. 14 per thousand. The Town plans to use ARPA funds to pay better Internet service. Beane asked for any other questions. Tim Carignan thanked the board for al/ their work, No further discussion. Ho-Sing-Loy made a rnotation to closed the meeting at 8:10PM, second by Beane.

Given under our hands and seal this 6th day of February 2024,

The Ly  
Bruce eane, Chairman  
Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy  
Thomas Smith

Lyman Board of Selectmen  
Board of Sele tmen  
e Beane. Chairman  
Beane chairman  
Thomas Smith

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Carignan, Town Clerk