

Lyndeborough Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

December 1, 2020

Citizens' Hall & via Zoom

Approved on Jan. 5, 2021

Chairman Burton Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Members present in-person at Citizens' Hall: Chairman Burton Reynolds, Sandy Schoen, Arnie Byam, and Town Administrator Russell Boland.

Members attending the meeting remotely via Zoom: Geoffrey Allen, Peter Dallas, John Pomer, Karen Grybko, Selectmen's Rep. Mark Chamberlain and minute taker Kathleen Humphreys.

Guests attending remotely: Cemetery Trustee Ginny Chrisenton and Planning Board Chairperson Tom Chrisenton, at home together. Library Trustee Bob Rogers, remotely due to COVID-10, alone.

4611: Conservation Commission Budget

T/A Boland said he had a conversation with Conservation Commission Chairman Mike Decubellis. Last year there was \$2,200.00 for a proposed easement, which did not materialize. Those funds will sunset after two years, which is March 2021, therefore this line will be lowered to \$100.00. If legal expenses are needed, it can possibly be taken out of their revolving funds or the Town's legal funds.

4595: Historic District Commission

There is a \$90 placeholder for public notices and certified mail.

4590: Heritage Commission

The requested budget is \$1,050.00. The budget was reduced because of the cellar mapping.

4197: Planning and Zoning

Tom Chrisenton was present via Zoom, with Ginny Chrisenton in the room.

The Planning Board expenses has been steady. Only change was clerical fees, which reflect an increase to step 8.

Tom Chrisenton said there is a little money left over each year. Geoff Allen asked why the budget is being raised each year if it is not always utilized. Mr. Chrisenton explained they never know how many cases they will receive each year or how many clerical hours will be needed. There is also office hours added to this budget. Typically, the fees help to cover expenses.

Karen Grybko and Mark Chamberlain joined via Zoom at 6:41p.m.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment has the same situation of unknown number of cases per year. It will go up a bit due to a wage increase. It can be challenging to estimate due to the unknown. For example, the previous year's budget was high due to litigation for the Feel Good Farm case.

4411: Health Administration

Health Inspector Donnie Cole has not arrived yet. T/A Boland explained that the Selectmen are curious if his stipend is covering the amount of work he is doing. He has saved the Town a lot of money with the inspections he does; fire extinguisher inspections as well as failed septic system inspections. He does health inspections, foster care, day care, and fire prevention activities in the school.

This budget was \$1,273 and proposed to increase to \$1,373. The number of hours were discussed.

Chairman Reynolds said that Mr. Cole has been more active in this position than the previous inspectors and he felt he should not be short changed for doing an excellent job for the Town.

4195: Cemeteries

Trustee Ginny Chrisenton was present via Zoom, Tom Chrisenton in the room.

This year there was one urn burial in North Cemetery. One burial was slated for Johnson's Corner Cemetery but COVID impeded that.

There are funds available for a project to repair broken or leaning headstones that was not spent this year due to the vendor's schedule. The contract is ready.

Mileage is a placeholder. The Highway Department mows the lawn. A zero-radius mower was purchased last year. Future equipment purchases includes a leaf blower. The CAD program is on-hold due to COVID-19.

Lime and seed cost were \$960 due to a grub problem.

The Trustees take down the big flags then save them in order to put them back up the next year. Ms. Chrisenton said that occasionally someone else will come along and put up a new flag.

Improvements include two granite post for Johnson Corner Cemetery.

Tom & Ginny Chrisenton left the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

4550: Library

Trustee Bob Rogers was present

Mr. Rogers explained the proposed budget is not much different from last year. The Trustees followed the town's salary schedule for the 2% COLA. They are asking for \$1,000.00 increase for salaries. There is money they wish to encumber because they did not have a chance to spend it.

Geoff Allen asked if the library usage was up this year. Mr. Rogers explained that the library was closed most of the year due to COVID-19 for most of the summer and even now, services are limited. So this is a not a typical year to gather statistics. On-line usage was briefly discussed.

The next meeting is December 8, 2020 then there will be a break until January 5, 2021. A meeting in Wilton is scheduled for January 12, 2021.

Health Inspector Donnie Cole arrived at Citizens' Hall. He was informed the stipends will be discussed at a future review.

Adjournment:

VOTE: Arnie Byam made a motion, John Pomer seconded to adjourn at 7:01 p.m.

Roll Call: John Pomer, yes; Peter Dallas, yes, Geoff Allen, no; Karen Grybko, yes; Sandy Schoen, yes; Arnie Byam, yes; Burton Reynolds, yes. Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Humphreys– Electronically signed

Kathleen Humphreys