

Lyndeborough Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2023

Citizens' Hall

Chairperson Karen Grybko called the meeting to order at 8:55 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Karen Grybko (KG), Vice-Chairperson Kevin Boette (KB), Walter Holland (WH), John Pomer (JP), Alyssa Lavoie (AL), Geoff Allen (GA), Fran Bujak (FB), Selectmen's Rep. Bob Howe (BH)

Members not present: Arnie Byam and Stan Greene

Present: Town Administrator Russ Boland and members of the public

Karen began by asking members to vote on whether or not to recommend individual budget warrant articles. Without discussion the committee voted on the following;

VOTE: The committee voted unanimously 8-0 to recommend Warrant Articles 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

The committee discussed Warrant Article 20 including number of bids and future usage.

The committee voted 4 For (FB, BH, JP, WH) - Against 4 (KB, GA, AL, KG) on Article 20. The article is not recommended.

Fran proposed reducing Dues and Subscription in the Executive department (4130-01-560) by \$755 by removing the RSA's subscription which was not expended in 2022. The committee briefly discussed the proposal.

VOTE: The committee voted 7 For (KG, WH, AL, GA, FB, KB, BH) – 1 Against (JP) – Proposal passes

The committee discussed multiple options for changes to employee compensation and benefits. Russ indicated that changing all employee salaries at this point would be a significant undertaking. Allyssa proposed changing the employee/employer health care percentages to 85/15, accept the recommended 2% COLA and 4% employee merit increases and making three (3) additional employees eligible for the matching 6% retirement program.

VOTE: The committee voted 5 For (KG, WH, AL, GA, KB) – 3 Against (JP, FB, BH) – Proposal passes

The committee discussed the increases in the library budget. This followed a detailed discussion which took place during the Public Hearing. The committee discussed the hours increase request and the limited information given for them. After discussing the library budget, the committee voted on keeping the budget as currently proposed.

VOTE: The committee voted 4 For (KG, JP, BH, KB) – 3 Against (AL, FB, WH) – 1 Abstain (GA) - Proposal passes

The committee discussed the addition request for NRPC Contracted Services (4197-04-390). This was also a follow up discussion to the discussion that took place during the Public Hearing. The concern was adding additional contractor support to assist in the application process, fixing years of incorrect filing, freeing up town employees for some permitting application functions and provide training to a town employee with the hope of reducing contractor services in the future. After discussing the NRPC contracted services line, the committee voted on keeping the budget as currently proposed.

VOTE: The committee voted 4 For (KG, AL, JP, BH) – 3 Against (GA, FB, WH) – 1 Abstain (KB) – Proposal passes

FB motioned and KB seconded to insert \$2,486,615 into Warrant Article 9.

VOTE: The committee voted unanimously 8-0 to recommend Warrant Article 9.

The next committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, February 13th at 6:30 p.m.

KB motioned and KG seconded to adjourn at 9:45 p.m.

VOTE: The committee voted unanimously 8-0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Francis Bujak