

Lyndeborough Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

January 24, 2023

Citizens' Hall

Chairperson Karen Grybko called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m.

Members present: Chairperson Karen Grybko, Arnie Byam, John Pomer, and Selectmen's Rep. Bob Howe

Present: Town Administrator Russ Boland and Finance Officer/HR Paul Hebert

Tonight's meeting was rescheduled from January 23, 2023 due to inclement weather.

There is not a quorum present tonight.

Russ Boland asked to confirm what he need to bring to the public hearing next week because Mr. Hebert will not be in the office next week. They were working on version 3.8.

The Stone Arch Bridge is in the Warrant Article now therefore will need to be taken out of the budget or it will be in there twice. It is either Warrant Article 16 or 15.

The Warrant Articles are not as large as last year's, which was \$267,000 whereas this year's proposals are around \$169,000.

The Committee confirmed the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Adjustment fees were increased and approved. They talked about escrow accounts for major subdivisions and so forth.

T/A Boland confirmed the Committee expects to see the original budget as proposed but without the \$6,000 for the Stone Arch Bridge or the ambulance. That will equal a 5.6% budget increase.

It was discussed that many local towns are anticipating substantial increases of 8% or 10% while New Boston which could have a 19% increase, just on the municipal part. One reason is a \$500,000 increasing for the fire department budget.

Paul Hebert presented the various scenarios for the employee benefits and showed how they will impact the budget and the tax bill.

There is a meeting next Monday, January 30, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

The Committee debated if they should be ready to endorse the 3.9% budget increase or the 5.8% budget increase. The Committee discussed the health care options.

The meeting ended at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Humphreys, via phone
Minute Taker