

**October 12, 2022  
Town of Lyme  
Budget Meeting 1:00 P.M.**

**Call to Order:**

Supervisor Countryman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Budget Discussion:**

The Board discussed when our first payments are going to be due for the New Office and New Highway Garage and if it should be included in 2023 budget. The Board stated it would be better to include the cost for 2023 budget.

There was discussion on putting an RFP out for the Point Salubrious Water District.

Veteran's Park may be losing both trees down by the shore. Supervisor Countryman stated that we could try to save them, but the roots aren't in great shape.

There was a discussion on Attorney Russell's office absence.

Supervisor Countryman passed out the 2023 tentative budget round 1. The yearly percentage raises were discussed. The Teamsters employees will receive a 2.9% raise for 2023. The Board considers the salary raise comparable to the teamster contract. Supervisor Countryman stated that he will plug in 4% raise for everyone.

Supervisor asked if the Town Board Contractual needed to be \$7500.00. Councilmember Villa said that we should keep the account balance for the fund balance.

Supervisor Countryman said we would be moving to a sole assessor. The salary would need to be discussed for that position and for the clerk to the assessor. He suggested interviewing the applicants for sole assessor and see what they anticipate for a salary. There was discussion on the qualifications needed for the sole appointed assessor.

Deputy Supervisor Bourquin stated that Elections should increase because we have possible permissive referendum coming up.

Supervisor Countryman asked if the gas stipend should be increased in the budget. The line item has gone over budget for 2022. Both Chaumont and Three Mile Bay Fire Department are first responders so the budget line should be equal. Supervisor Countryman suggested increasing their fire contract amount and eliminating the gas stipend.

Lyme Community Foundation asked for an increase from \$9,000.00 to \$12,000.00. The request was because of the increase in expenses such as heat. The Board stated they would like to leave the organizations the same as 2022 across the board.

Supervisor Countryman is going to reach out to Pat Weston to ask if he needs any changes on his highway budget.

Three Mile Bay asked for the same appropriation. Chaumont Fire Department asked for an increase of \$20,000.00 to their annual appropriation. They also asked for \$50,000.00 toward a down payment for a new truck.

The water accounts will receive a 4% raise for billing and receiving. The rest of the budget won't change much. Supervisor Countryman will speak to Water Operator Bill Scarpocchi to see if there needs to be adjustments to Water Operator.

### Adjournment

**Resolution 2022-148:** Councilmember Villa made the motion to adjourn at 3:30 p.m.; Deputy Supervisor Bourquin seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ariana Henderson*

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Town Clerk