

October 18, 2023
Town of Lyme
Budget Meeting 3:00 P.M.

Call to Order:

Supervisor Countryman called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

Budget Discussion:

The Board discussed the modified budget as written. The fund balance was discussed.

The Municipal Court PS account was reviewed. The court clerk was added to the Municipal Court PS and was on the Municipal Court Clerk PS line. This will be revised in the next budget addition.

The attorney costs were increased by \$32,000.00. The budget line total is \$55,000.00.

The engineer CE was dropped by \$15,000.00.

The Board agreed to leave the buildings CE the same.

The First Responders CE was removed from the budget line. There was a detailed discussion related to the new First Responders vehicle proposal from Cape Vincent Ambulance. The Board considered donating a vehicle for First Responders. The Town discussed spending their ARPA money on the purchase of the vehicle.

The Town would like to cover the cost of the Lyme Light. The cost to print it is \$10,400.00. The Foundation is requesting \$15,000.00. The Board agreed on \$11,500.00.

The Volunteer Transportation Center was left the same even though they requested a decrease. They provide a great service to our Town.

Councilmember Farrell asked if DASNY would fund the Old Cedar Grove Cemetery because it was a Historic cemetery. Supervisor Countryman is meeting with Heather Lipczynski and a State Cemetery Investigator on Monday regarding New and Old Cedar Grove cemetery.

Revenues were discussed including sales tax and mortgage tax.

The Chamber of Commerce will be raised to \$5,000.00 to cover the cost of the Chamber Books.

Zoning Contractual will be changed to \$6,500.00.

The total projected cost for a 7th highway employee is \$88,198.48. Deputy Supervisor Bourquin said that Pat's workload is continuing to increase. If George retires then this full-time employee

would replace him. The Board agreed to add a 7th highway employee to the budget. There was a discussion on adding Veteran's Park maintenance to their duties including mowing and cleaning.

Snow Removal CE was reduced by \$15,000.00. Pat figured his budget with Supervisor Countryman.

Supervisor Countryman moved money from the General Fund to the Capital Reserve Accounts.

Both Fire Departments will receive \$90,000.00 a year.

The Water Districts are in good shape. They will be researching more regarding William Scarpicchi's compensation for working for the water department. They will be discussing this next budget work session.

Our fund balance is inflated by \$100,000.00 because of an error when our budget when it was filed with the County. This \$100,000.00 extra was collected in taxes. The big issue is that this made the Town over the tax cap in 2023. Supervisor Countryman discussed the resolutions with the accountant. The issue will be resolved in the 2024 budget and a reserve will be created.

Adjournment

Resolution 2023-145: Councilmember Villa made the motion to adjourn at 5:37 p.m.; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ariana Henderson

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Town Clerk