



BOARD OF FINANCE

LYME TOWN HALL
480 HAMBURG ROAD
LYME, CT 06371

LYME BOARD OF FINANCE
Regular Meeting

The Lyme Board of Finance held a regular meeting on Tuesday February 15, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Road, Lyme CT 06371.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Alan Sheiness Chair, Bob House, Jarrod Leonardo, Kathryn Wayland, seated alternates Jim Miller and Bruce Anderson, Jennifer Thomas Secretary
Absent Members: Dan Hagan, David Brown, and Susan Tyler (alternate)
First Selectman Steven Mattson and Selectman David Lahm present

Sheiness called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Seat Alternate Member

Anderson was seated for Hagan and Miller was seated for Brown.

Approve the minutes from the February 8, 2022 meeting

Sheiness called for a motion to approve the minutes. Leonardo made the motion, seconded by House and the minutes were unanimously approved.

FY 22/23 Budget-Capital Plan

Mattson reviewed the Capital Planning projections over the next eight fiscal years, noting that both expenditures and reimbursements vary greatly year to year as the reimbursements for the upcoming bridge projects will be paid in the year following the expenditure. The reimbursements over the eight-year period total about 42% of the capital expenditure over the same period. Major capital expenses include the Birch Mill Bridge, Macintosh Bridge, the Marvin Cemetery project and Senior Center expansion. Additional capital expenses include replacing a fire truck, a town truck according to the replacement schedule. The board discussed several other anticipated capital expenses that will occur in later years, including the Salem Road bridge and the ambulance and Hadlyme station building projects. Wayland asked if some of the ARPA funding can be used towards the Senior Center project as many seniors have been hit hard by the pandemic. Mattson stated that would be feasible and the portion of ARPA funds that end up in the general fund can be thought of as available for the Senior Center.

Old Business

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Update

Mattson stated that per the board's recommendations, he is in the process of getting estimates to repair the HVAC in the Town Hall and moving forward with scheduling the additional chip sealing on the roads.

Wayland questioned whether the Hadlyme Public Hall and Lyme Public Hall have been considered for the portion of the ARPA funding that is allotted to non-profits in town and Mattson stated that all non-profits can apply but that he has been told the Lyme Public Hall did not lose money.

Wayland also asked whether there are any veteran associations in town that might need the funds.

Wayland stated that she would like to know how the board feels on the percentage amount and allotment of the funds apportioned to essential employees. The board discussed the percentage and how “essential employee” is defined, and whether a minimum amount can be added to the proposed plan.

Mattson agreed to incorporate the board’s suggestions and present the board with updates at the next meeting.

The board also discussed the Board of Selectmen’s recommendations for the remaining ARPA funds, including the potential of adding an additional town crew member. The board agreed to discuss this again after receiving estimates for the town hall HVAC repairs.

New Business

Wayland asked for an update on hiring a financial director and upgrading the accounting software. Mattson stated that this has not been done at this point but plans to hire a financial director at least three months before the treasurer retires in order to have adequate time for training.

The board also discussed the wage inflation assumption of 5.5% and agreed to continue to look at this as the budget process continues.

Adjournment

Sheiness called for a motion to adjourn. Wayland made the motion, seconded by Leonardo and the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Thomas, Secretary