BOARD OF FINANCE LYME TOWN HALL
480 HAMBURG ROAD LYME, CT 06371

LYME BOARD OF FINANCE
Regular Meeting
March 5, 2024

The Lyme Board of Finance held a Regular Meeting Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the Lyme Town Hall, 480 Hamburg Rd, Lyme, CT 06371.

Members Present: Alan Sheiness (chair), Dave Brown, Bob House, Steve Mattson, Dan Hagan, Jim Miller, Walter Burhans (alternate), Jeff Oyster (alternate), Lannie Mossberg secretary.
Absent Members: Adam McEwen (alternate)
First Selectman Lahm was **present.**
Selectwoman White was **present.**
Finance Director Morgan Regan was **present.**

Call to Order - 6:30 p.m.

Seat Alternate Member – n/a

Approve the Minutes from the February 27, 2024, Regular Meeting – Hagan made a motion to approve the minutes. Seconded by Mattson. Unanimous.

Additional capital need for Senior Center renovation – Sheiness reviewed his handout and explained that the senior center intends to go to a special town meeting for the overage to stick to the original bids of around $1.3mil. The bids expire on May 6th, and the committee is still discussing changes/adjustments. Lahm stated the Board of Select People has voted to forward or request to the Board of Finance to approve and recommend to the town meeting an additional $220k. Sheiness stated, on behalf of the Board of Finance (BOF), received. Motion on the table by Brown to approve the $220k. Seconded by Miller. Brown questioned who would be presenting for the Board of Finance at the town meeting. Hagan raised a discussion about a Lyme resident from BOF or the Select people presenting to the town. Hagan said, "We are a hometown." Mattson agreed. Lahm commented we need to take care of the seniors. Hagan questioned the contingency and suggested a higher rate. Sheiness responded that there was room for a higher level but not too high. Hagan reiterated Browns motion to recommend the $220k to the town meeting for approval. Seconded by Miller. Unanimous.

Overview of 24/25 Full Budget—Sheiness said the mill rate, operating expenses, and capital reimbursement will be discussed at the next meeting. Miller questioned the ECS grant. Lahm commented that the government put out a budget, which it comes from, but the adoption is unknown until April 1st.

Selectman's discussion of 24/25 detailed operating budget - Lahm said regarding health insurance, got a good news message that it's a 2% increase, which is a 15-20k savings. Technology has gone up

$8k for using more hours on Microsoft protection, including in-house software, and some departments are slowly switching to the cloud. As for campus maintenance, Lahm said select women White suggested new parking lot lines. Mattson commented that it's never been done. Nothing new on the transfer station other than it's up from inflation. There was a good increase for Fire/EMS. Sheiness commented on education expenses and the percentage of students. Miller questioned highways. Mattson explained. Oyster questioned how many cemeteries. Mattson commented that 16 are town-owned, and the funds are for mowing and branch clean-ups. Lahm said there are 19 Appeals for the assessor. Sheiness mentioned the size of the general funds vs. the target and what needs to be supported in years to come. Sheiness asked if there were any general comments about how everything looks as of now. A brief discussion of how the budget is looking, but no new comments.

New Business -n/a

Adjournment - 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lannie Mossberg, Secretary