

EAST LYME BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2011
MINUTES

PRESENT: Paul Formica, Mark Nickerson, John Birmingham, Jack Hogan.

Mr. Formica called the meeting to order at 5:12 p.m. and led the Pledge.

Mr. Formica stated that the purpose of the meeting was to review some of the town's departmental budgets.

2a. Police Department (#216)

Sgt. Blanchette was present and noted that his budget indicates contractual increases for the year and an increase in the radio service contract. He added that in all other lines, he tried to keep the budget as low as possible and that his entire budget reflects a 2% increase.

Mr. Nickerson inquired how the boat program worked out this past year.

Ms. Hardy entered the meeting at 5:16 p.m.

Sgt Blanchette responded that we had the boat out more than in the past due to the good weather. He added that they try not to have a redundant boat service with Waterford.

Mr. Hogan noted that the Shellfish Commission was happy with the boat coverage.

Ms. Hardy inquired about the grant for overtime noting that it now reflected "0".

Finance Director Anna Johnson said that the grant funding is not included as part of the budget, it is done by a special appropriation upon receipt of the grant.

Ms. Hardy inquired where was the money reflected for the fines collected from speeding tickets.

Ms. Johnson said the money was in the General Fund Revenue Account #0106-600-601. She said that this year to date we have received \$3880, FY 2010 we received \$9955.

Ms. Hardy suggested that the legislators be petitioned to get more money returned to the municipalities from moving infractions tickets.

Mr. Wilson arrived at 5:37 p.m. and noted he was fine with the Police Budget.

2b. Parks and Recreation #421

Mr. Putnam noted that he had added funding for a part time new position which will be shared with public works – a field services manager who will be housed in the new

building on Capitol Drive. He said that increases were reflected due to contractual obligations of the union personnel.

Mr. Formica noted that he would be decreasing the Human Resource Manager position which will offset this increase.

Ms. Hardy inquired if the current Human Resource Manager would be assuming this new position.

Mr. Formica responded that this is one of the options they are considering.

Mr. Nickerson inquired about the random testing costs increasing.

Mr. Putnam responded that this was due to a new employee that had been added.

Mr. Nickerson inquired if there would be any savings if Youth Services were added under the Parks and Recreation umbrella.

Mr. Putnam responded that it would be possible to operate the programs and the money could be placed in the Special Revenue Fund.

Ms. Hardy confirmed that the \$75,000 increase in the budget was due to union contractual increases and an additional part time employee.

The consensus of the Board was that Mr. Putnam was doing a great job and had delivered a great budget.

2c. Public Works

#105 Town Engineer

Director of Public Works Mike Giannattasio noted that the Director's salary had been removed from this budget and placed in the Public Works – Highway and Sanitation budget. He said that the Civil Engineer II position is a proposed new hire based on the high activity level of this department. He added that 60% of the new hire's salary was reflected in this budget and 40% would be in the Water and Sewer budget since both departments would be sharing this employee. He added that other than this new position, the increase was due to union contractual increases.

Director Giannattasio reviewed the following list of work projects presently being addressed by this department:

- surveying and designing the streetscape from Baptist Lane to Lake Avenue
- surveying and designing new plan for downtown parking lot
- surveying and designing McCook's bathrooms
- surveying and designing Walnut Hill culvert
- road drainage
- Capitol Drive survey
- Lillie B. Haynes – reworking the front entrance

-Rte 161 sidewalk design.

Mr. Wilson inquired how much the total salary for the new engineer would be and asked what he would be doing in Water and Sewer if Brad Kargl is full time.

Director Giannattasio responded the salary would be \$71, 700. He said that with the water regionalization, it would be much cheaper to have a staff member working on the project as opposed to hiring consultants. He added that part of the salary for this position was included within the bonding package.

Mr. Nickerson asked if there was a way to hire with an interim contract in case this position would not be needed in a few years.

Director Giannattasio responded that if the workload slowed down in the future, the position would be reviewed and modification could be made as have been done in the past.

Information Technology #109

Director Giannattasio said the only increase in this budget was due to union contractual increases.

Public Works # 317

Director Giannattasio noted the increase for the shared position (Field Services Manager) and the partial salary portion of the Director's salary. He said that passing equipment purchases in the past has helped to keep the fleet maintenance item flat.

Mr. Wilson inquired what the part time seasonal line was for.

Director Giannattasio responded the funding was for part time engineering hours and part time environmental scientist hours for a tree survey.

Mr. Wilson suggested that mowing and trimming be removed from the rationale for item 412.

Mr. Birmingham inquired about the LOCIP funding.

Mr. Formica said that this figure depends on the Governor's intent and said that we might need to revisit LOCIP and TAR funding lines.

Mr. Wilson asked if the department has looked into any program to lower the street light line – perhaps by utilizing different light bulbs, etc.

Ms. Hardy inquired of the total cost for the Field Service Manager.

Director Giannattasio responded \$42,875; \$24,550 from Public Works and \$18,425 from Parks and Recreation.

East Lyme Special Board of Selectmen 2/9/11 minutes

Mr. Wilson inquired if the position would be union and why it wasn't at an Administrative Assistant level.

Mr. Formica said that he was consolidating the Human Resource Manager and the Field Services Manager positions into the new position. He said that he was consolidating departments to make us more efficient.

Building Maintenance #113

The increases in this budget were due to union contractual increases.

MOTION (1)

Mr. Wilson moved to adjourn the February 9, 2011 Special Meeting of the East Lyme Board of Selectmen at 6:58 p.m.

Seconded by Mr. Nickerson. Motion passed 6-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene C. Stevens, Recording Secretary