

Budget Meeting Notes for 01/09/07
Ambulance Service, Recycling Center, Goss Park
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All members were in attendance (I think) at a combined meeting of the Budget Committees of Wilton, Temple, and Lyndeborough in a closet at Wilton Town Hall.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

- Ambulance service will be taken over by Town of Wilton. Service contracts with Lyndeborough and Temple will still provide service to these towns. An explanation of why this was necessary was provided by Bill Carnduff and Dick Rockwood. Insurance providers would rather see this as a town department instead of independent. The costs of workmen's compensation would have been \$60,000 – \$80,000 if the service had stayed as an independent organization. As a cost savings measure, the ambulance service will be covered under Wilton's workmen's comp insurance, which is less expensive than the alternative.
- The revenue deficit was down by 18% or \$32,116. This could also have been due to some late payments and non-payments. The projected revenues for last year were well below estimates because there were fewer calls for service last year – down by 14%.
- There may be a warrant article in the Wilton budget for \$8,000 to cover the cost of protective gear for the ambulance personnel. Each set of gear costs \$800, so only ten people out of 25 will be covered. Some of the personnel are also firefighters with town of Temple and Lyndeborough, and already have protective gear. There was some discussion about using the "Wheeler" fund in Wilton to pay for gear, but this would mean Wilton would end up paying for the total expense. The consensus was that this expense should be spread over all three towns. Eventually this should be a line item on the budget. The final costs will be split proportionally across the three towns.

RECYCLING CENTER

- The Recycling Center budget is about the same as last year. There is a real need for another bayler to crunch up the tin and aluminum cans. The cost for this is \$51,000 and will be a capitol item in the budget. The revenue income had not been finalized for the year, and was not provided at the meeting. An approximate revenue of \$172,000 was given. The total budget is up by about 6%.

GOSS PARK

- The Youth Center/Goss Park budget was presented with an increase of about 3% for next year's Lyndeborough budget.
- **Meeting Adjourned at 8:56 PM**

LYNDEBOROUGH BUDGET COMMITTEE

- Lyndeborough Budget Committee returned to Citizens Hall to discuss details of meetings with Wilton and Temple. A revised school budget and warrant articles were also discussed. The Police budget was discussed at length. This involved the requested part-time hours for next year that the Selectmen do not support. There is a conflict with the scheduling of coverage for full and part-time officers, and the amount of actual patrol within the town. A lot of part-time hours last year were used for investigations. There is also a request for two new hires in next year's budget, and this was discussed with Selectmen as to their understanding of the need for these additions to the Police department.
- There was general discussion about reducing certain line items in the budget such as vehicle expenses, uniforms, and computer expenses. A letter was prepared by Burton Reynolds to send to Chief Basinas requesting a meeting on the 23rd of January to explain and support his budget requests.
- A discussion of the compensation package for firefighters and whether it should be increased this year.
- **Meeting adjourned at 10:30 pm.**

Respectfully submitted
Walter M. Holland
Secretary, Budget Committee