

Lyndeborough Budget Committee Minutes
February 11, 2010

Present: Burton Reynolds, Don Guertin, Jim Button, Karen Grybko, Kevin Boette, Bill Ball, Andy Roeper, Fran Bujak, Lorraine Strube, Bruce Houston, Jim Bingham, T.A.

OPERATING BUDGET

At the public budget hearing on 2/9/10 the committee was asked to add one dollar for a misc line in the police budget for expenses of an odd nature that might occur and one dollar was requested for the Heritage Commission. Both were approved. The only other change was a decrease in the police administrator line by \$5,000. This was proposed by the Selectmen after meeting with the police department the night before. These savings will be spent on a warrant article to help prepare documents for additional space for the police department. Some discussion took place around why an increase was being considered when all the 2009 budget had not been spent. Members pointed to specific 2010 expenses that made the budget jump and felt it should not be amended down further.

POLICE SPACE WARRANT ARTICLE

Much effort was spent on reviewing what exactly was the best course of action relative to more space for the police department. All agree there is a need for more space. The issue is how well prepared we are to make a decision and affordability. More work needs to be done to determine exactly what is to be done and the cost. An architect was coming on 2/12/10 to discuss preparing plans. All agreed it would have been preferable had more preparatory work been done sooner. But there was also agreement more space is critical. With this in mind the \$5,000 just saved from the police operating budget was put toward a warrant article for the expense of plans, etc. Due to the overall budget increase a compromise was struck on the amount to go into a Capital Reserve Fund for an addition to Citizens Hall to house the police; it was set at \$25,000 rather than the \$50,000 that the CIP Committee had recommended. The committee also felt the plan they were presented with, that had just been discussed by the police and Selectmen, was too large and included elements such as booking (with the attendant separate lavatory facilities) it had been agreed would be attended to exclusively in Wilton. Everyone agreed to revisit what was to comprise the police space. Talk of possibly doing the project in phases was discussed and the importance of a garage was emphasized.

Prepared by Burton Reynolds