

**TOWN OF LEMPSTER  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET**

Approved Minutes  
February 9, 2021

**PRESENT:** Chairman Philip Tirrell, Selectman Mary Grenier, Selectman Everett Thurber and Ingrid Bjork, Administrative Assistant

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Barbara Richards, David Richards, Jim Grenier, Kyle Welch, Richard Fairweather, Carol Andrews, Becky Farrand, Scott Goodspeed, Eckhard Straeter, Town Clerk/Tax Collector Linda Callahan and Ernie Perry.

Chairman Tirrell called the Budget Hearing to order at 7:00 PM.

Copies of the proposed 2021 Warrant were available to the public. Chairman Tirrell said and if anyone has any questions while he is reading the proposed 2021 Town Warrant he will answer them after. Chairman Tirrell discussed Emergency order #83 and the postponement of the Annual Town meeting and election till June 8, 2021. He read the proposed 2021 Town Warrant. Chairman Tirrell discussed the 2021 total operating budget of \$1,425,465 which is level funded but explained areas that had increases or decreases. Those areas were the following:

- Election and Registration – Decreased by \$5,150 due to less elections
- Financial Administration - Increased \$1,000 to add Trustee of Trust Funds bookkeeping expenses
- Appraisal of Property – Decreased \$8,000 due to regular year
- Insurance Property & Liability - Increased \$1,000 due to cost increase
- Contingency- Increased \$4,412 balance to level fund Operating Budget
- Police Budget – Increased \$2,000 to increase patrol
- Emergency Management – Increased \$2,000 for pandemic expenses/communications
- Solid Waste – Increased \$4,925 due to increase in transportation costs
- Health Agencies – Increased \$177 to round up
- Bonds and Notes Interest – Decreased \$2,364 due to less interest

Chairman Tirrell asked if there were any questions.

Jim Grenier asked about article 28 and if the wording “We, the towns people recommend this article” be removed. Chairman Tirrell said that it is an article submitted by petition and written exactly as submitted.

Mrs. Richards asked if article 21 should be 2/3 vote instead of 3/5. Ms. Bjork said that it was a recent change and reviewed by the Department of Revenue.

Jim Grenier asked about article 13 regarding solar. Chairman Tirrell explained that it is the warrant article the Selectmen recommended but knew that it could be raised on the floor.

Mr. Fairweather asked about article 27, also regarding solar. Chairman Tirrell explained that it is an article submitted by petition and written as submitted. Mr. Goodspeed asked what would happen if both passed. Ms. Bjork said that the moderator should discuss that there are two similar warrant articles and how to proceed.

Kyle Welch asked if any other warrant articles could be submitted and Chairman Tirrell said no, that the date has passed. Meeting postponement by emergency order #83 did not change the other requirements.

Chairman Tirrell discussed the MS 636 and that the estimated taxes to be raised is \$546,635.

Chairman Tirrell asked if there were any other questions. Kyle Welch asked if the Selectmen would consider putting their meetings virtual. Chairman Tirrell said not at this time but may be considered in the future.

Selectman Grenier made a motion to accept the 2021 proposed operating budget and warrant articles. Selectman Thurber seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Selectman Grenier made a motion to adjourn the Budget Hearing at 7:29 PM. Selectman Thurber seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ingrid Bjork  
Administrative Assistant