



TOWN OF OLD LYME

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes – Special Board of Selectmen Budget Review Meeting

January 12, 2026, at 12:30 PM

LOCATION: Mezzanine Meeting Room – Memorial Town Hall

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:36 PM
2. In attendance: First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker, Selectman John Mesham and Selectman Jim Lamos. Finance Director Anita Mancini was also seated at the table.
Guests from the Board of Finance were Chair Bennett J. Bernblum and Fred Behringer
3. The following budgets will be discussed with the Board of Selectmen.
 - 12:30 – Tax Collector’s budget was presented by Suzanne Thompson. She asked that her assistant be increased to 30 hours per week. First Selectwoman Martha Shoemaker said that it would be brought to the Salary Committee to discuss. The group also discussed her training budget line, costs for QDS software and required postage.
 - 12:45 – Town Clerk’s office budget was presented by Vicki Urbowicz. Discussion topics included increased costs for ordinance codification and postage costs.
 - 1:00 – Information Technology budget was presented by Tom Meyer. Topics for discussion included mileage costs within town as Tom is called off site. Fred Behringer asked how many supplies we purchase at a time. Tom also expressed concern about data storage in the future.
 - 1:45 – Boards and Commissions
 - Ethics – Chair Lou Magano was not present but asked for no increase in budget lines.
 - Flood and Erosion – Chair Russ Linderman was not present, but Anita Mancini indicated that they had asked for a clerk for their meetings.
 - Harbor Management had not submitted a budget at this time. Board of Finance members asked for clarification of what the Harbor Management spends Fund 14 on.
 - Affordable Housing – Chair Jenn Miller joined the group by phone. She indicated that the increase in contracted services was for the new Municipal Housing Plan that needs to be completed by FY 27/28. She also indicated that sitework might need to be done for town properties on Kimmick and Grandview.
 - Economic Development – Chairs were not present. Further clarification is needed for their part-time position request. This will be provided to the Salary Committee for further discussion.
 - Historic District Commission – Chair was not present. Further clarification is needed regarding their request for an administrative assistant. Deferred to Salary Committee.
 - Tree Commission – Martha had met with Joanne DiCamillo prior to the meeting. The stipend for the Tree Warden will be considered by the Salary Committee.
 - Rogers Lake Authority’s budget was presented by Mark Hastings. He explained that the RLA is concerned about Hydrilla and wants to do everything they can to prevent it from coming into



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the lake. Water testing, early detection procedures, treatment options and a boat launch inspector are all possible resources they will be researching.

- Sound View Commission – Chair Frank Pappalardo had contacted Martha Shoemaker earlier in the day to state that he would finalize his budget within the next few days. He indicated that there would not be any large increases in his budget line.
- Conservation Commission had sent a budget to Anita Mancini earlier in the day with specific details. Their largest increase is in their contracted services line and that is to provide for more speakers and presentations.
- Open Space Commission’s budget was presented by Chair Greg Futoma and Vice Chair Anne Redfield presented their budget request. The increased costs they may be occurring are conservancy easements for two of their current Open Spaces.
- Road and Public Safety Committee’s budget was presented by Chair Greg Futoma presented a minimal budget request. He said the committee is researching ideas to bring before the Board of Selectmen.

3:00 - Selectman’s Office and Town Hall budgets were presented by Martha Shoemaker. She indicated that decreases can be made in the SO budget under student interns, postage and beach parking passes for a savings of \$15,000. Cheryl Poirier also presented her budget requests for Sustainable Old Lyme and America 250 Committees. There was discussion about a stipend position for Sustainable Old Lyme and a Grant Writer for the town. These will be discussed with the Salary Committee at a future date.

The Town Hall budget had decreases in Office Supplies and Facilities Management in total amount of \$1750.

The meeting took a break 4:43 PM.

At 5:06 PM we met with Chief Mike McCarthy and President Rob McCarthy from the Old Lyme Volunteer Fire Department. They presented a budget with minimal budget increases. Discussion on the status of all fire department buildings occurred to make sure all Capital projects in the future were included in long term planning. President Rob McCarthy also noted that he would like to continue discussions on the Emergency Services Retirement options.

Selectman Jim Lampos made a motion to adjourn at 5:35PM. Selectmen John Mesham seconded the motion. Motion passed.