

# TOWN OF LYMAN

## 2024 Town Meeting Warrant

To the Inhabitants of the Town of Lyman, in the County of Grafton, and the State of New Hampshire, qualified to vote in the Town affairs:

You are hereby notified to meet at the Lyman Town Hall in said Town on TUESDAY, the TWELTH day of MARCH 2024; polls to open at ELEVEN O'CLOCK in the morning and will not close before SIX O'CLOCK in the evening in said Town Hall, to act on Article 1; the remaining Articles to be considered at SEVEN O'CLOCK in the evening.

**Article 1.** To choose all necessary Town Officers for the ensuing year.

*Present were Moderator: Todd Landry, Selectmen Chairman: Bruce Beane, Selectman: Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy, Selectman: Thomas S. Smith, Administrative Assistant: Heather Torres, and Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Bethany Carignan. At 7:00 pm Moderator Landry called the meeting to order, introduced himself, welcomed all, asked everyone to rise and recite the pledge, he then reviewed procedures of order and thanked all for coming. Moderator Landry then read the results of Article 1.*

Selectman (1) 3 year term:  
Milton Presby\* 41 votes  
Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy 35  
Donna Clark 2

Board of Adjustment (2) 3 year term:  
Greg Harville\* 49 votes  
Michael Stockley\* 71  
Cathy Colby 1  
Michael Colby 1

Board of Adjustment (1) 2 year term:  
Michael Colby\* 78 votes

Moderator (1) 2 year term:  
Todd Landry\* 76 votes

Planning Board (1) 3 year term:  
Jennifer Stockley\* 78 votes

Planning Board (1) 1 year term:  
Michael D. Belanger\* 72 votes  
David Pratt 1  
Terry Aldrich 1

Micheal Stockley 1

Trustee of the Trust Funds (1) 3 year term:

Kimberly J. Smith\* 74 votes  
Deb Heath 1

Supervisor of the Checklist (1) 6 year term:

Cindy Schieman\* 78 votes

**Article 2.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Two Dollars (\$432,532) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. (Majority vote required)

Executive .....	\$66,555.00
Financial Administration.....	68,715.00
Revaluation of Property .....	6,250.00
Legal Expenses .....	5,000.00
Personnel Administration .....	75,000.00
Planning.....	5,150.00
Zoning.....	2,465.00
General Government Buildings.....	28,578.00
Cemeteries .....	11,500.00
Insurance otherwise not allocated .....	17,150.00
Advertising & Reg. Associations .....	2,400.00
Other General Government .....	500.00
Ambulance.....	20,000.00
Fire.....	34,250.00
Emergency Management.....	5,115.00
Solid Waste Disposal.....	66,600.00
Health Officer.....	1,100.00
Animal Control .....	2,740.00
Health Agencies.....	5,934.00
Welfare Administration.....	630.00
Welfare Vendor Payments .....	700.00
Library.....	2,000.00
Patriotic Purposes.....	500.00
Other Culture .....	2,800.00
Conservation.....	400.00
Interest on TAN.....	<u>500.00</u>
TOTAL .....	\$432,532.00

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Beane and seconded by Selectman Smith. Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy made a motion to amend the warrant article to increase the budget by \$20,050.50. Accepted by Selectman Smith, seconded by Selectman Beane. The selectman explained that Lisbon had not billed Lyman for the 4th quarter and that the total budget needed to be increased by the \$20,050.50 to cover that bill when it finally does arrive. It was explained that the additional amount would be for non-payment for Fire, Ambulance, and Transfer Station. Andrew Dorsett asked if the incoming bill would be comparable to last year's 3rd quarter bill and the selectman stated that it would be close to last year's bill. There was then considerable discussion between the selectmen and Emilie Smith regarding whether one third of the additional funds would be applied to the Transfer Station budget line or the Solid Waste Disposal budget line. Once clarified, Greg Harville made a suggestion that it may be wise for the selectmen to annotate the three budget lines affected by the additional funds and the amounts going to each of those lines in the warrant article. Emilie Smith called for an amendment to capture Harville explanation. Moderator Landry stated that that would be an amendment to the amendment. Harry Dale asked if the money for this payment from last year's budget was still available. The selectmen answered that it was still available and not spent. Moderator Landry then took a vote on the amendment to the amendment which included the three budget lines to which the additional funds would be added and the amount (\$6,683.50 each) to the budget lines for Fire, Ambulance, and Solid Waste Disposal. **All ayes to amend.** Moderator Landry then asked for any further discussion. No discussion. Moderator Landry then read the amended article, bringing the total budget for article 2 to \$452,582.50 and showing the three affected line items and their new totals. Moderator Landry then called for the vote. All ayes. **Article 2 Passed**

**Article 3.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Three Hundred Fifty-Six Thousand and Seventeen Dollars (\$356,017) for maintenance, expenses, salaries, equipment, and street lighting for the Highway Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Highway Administration .....	\$182,447.00
Highway Maintenance.....	\$172,850.00
Street Lighting.....	<u>\$720.00</u>
TOTAL .....	\$356,017.00

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. Nancy Labbay asked about any plans to fix Pettyboro Road and that the road was a nightmare, having significant potholes needing to be fixed. Road Agent Tom Smith introduced himself and thanked everyone for coming. Road Agent Smith stated that the maintenance to be done to Pettyboro Road and every other gravel or dirt road in Lyman would be the basic, normal grading and maintenance he completed each year and that there were no plans at this time to do any additional restructural work to any of these roads in the coming year. Harry Dale asked about the relationship between the state and the town for road repairs, referencing Clough Hill Road and the huge pothole in the asphalt nearest his home. Road Agent Smith explained that the town maintains that 4-mile portion of the state road Clough Hill between the months of November and April, but that the state takes back over the maintenance the rest of the year. Donald Kinnett asked if there was a long-term plan for more

significant repairs to Lyman's back roads and Road Agent Smith said there was none at this time. Emilie Smith asked about the \$20,000 increase from last year's budget. Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy stated the reason was for salary increases. Sharon Kisch stated that something should be done about Moulton Hill and Under The Mountain Roads since the mud was so bad that emergency services would be unable to reach those in need. Moderator Landry stated that the Emergency Service folks had devised alternate plans to reach those on significantly muddy or impassable roads, but gave no further explanation.

The selectmen also added that the loader that was replaced last year would be going to silent auction in the near future. No further discussion.

Moderator Landry then re-read the Article and called for the vote. All ayes. **Article 3 Passed**

**Article 4.** To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Two Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy-Three Dollars (\$52,773) for expenses, salaries, supplies, and equipment for the Election, Registration & Vitals Department for the ensuing year. (Majority vote required)

Town Clerk-Tax Collector .....	\$38,333.00
Deputy Town Clerk-Tax Collector .....	\$7,920.00
Voter Registration .....	<u>\$6,520.00</u>
TOTAL .....	\$52,773.00

Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy. Town Clerk Bethany Carignan asked Administrative Assistant Heather Torres to project the article's budget details. Town Clerk Carignan mentioned that this was the first year that the Election, Registration, & Vitals Department was separated from Article 2. Selectmen Ho-Sing-Loy added that this action was taken based on recommendation from town legal counsel. Town Clerk Carignan quickly explained the article's budget lines. Celine Presby made a motion to amend to reduce the wages of the Town Clerk to last year's wage level. Moderator Landry asked if Celine Presby had her amendment in writing. Celine Presby wrote down her amendment and submitted it to Moderator Landry. Moderator Landry recognized the amendment and asked if there was a second. Brett Presby seconded. Moderator Landry opened the amendment up for discussion. Bryce Yawger stated that he was very happy with Town Clerk Carignan's performance and felt she should be paid the wage in the original article before it was amended. Michelle Prunier stated that she agreed with Yawger. Others shared similar sentiments. Leonard Rams stated that the wage in the original article was fair because of cost-of-living increases. The increase to the Town Clerk's pay was explained to be the six percent wage increase was also given to other town employees. A question was asked if all town employees received this six percent raise. Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy answered yes. Celine Presby remarked that not all employees received the six percent increase. Tim Carignan stated that those employees who chose not to take the increase should not be characterized as if they were not offered an increase and that the comment by Presby was misleading. Celine Presby then asked about the Town Clerk's benefits. Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy responded that Town Clerk Carignan received two-person dental benefits. Wanda Hubbard commented that she had not ever seen a part-time

*position given full benefits. Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy stated that Town Clerk Carignan did not take full time benefits. Tim Carignan stated that Town Clerk Carignan had not taken health insurance, as was her right, as a benefit for the five years that she was employed for the town, a savings of more than two year's wages for the town. No further discussion. Moderator Landry then took a vote on the amendment. **Amendment failed.** Moderator Landry asked for further discussion on the original amendment. No discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the original article. All ayes. **Article 4 passed.***

**Article 5.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty-Seven Thousand Dollars (\$37,000) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. Road Crew Tom Smith gave an update on the current grader, which is the next piece of equipment to replace. He stated the grader still has a good 10,000 hours of work left on it before it would need to be replaced. A new grader, he reported, would cost \$400,000. No other discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes.*

**Article 5 passed.**

**Article 6.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirteen Thousand Nine Hundred Six Dollars (\$13,906.00) to be added to the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund previously established with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance (These funds represent a One Time Highway Block Grant payment received from the State of New Hampshire). (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. The selectmen explained the article. No discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes. **Article 6 passed.***

**Article 7.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Forty Thousand Dollars (\$40,000) to be added to the Road Material Capital Reserve Fund previously established, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance (These funds represent an American Rescue Plan Act payment received from the Grafton County American Rescue Plan Fund). (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. The selectmen explained that these funds were as a result of former Selectman Jim Trudell's grant writing efforts. No discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes. **Article 7 passed.***

**Article 8.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Road Material Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. Nancy Labbay asked if the town had enough material already to do*

*repairs this year. Road Agent Tom Smith responded that the town had 6,000 yards already crushed in the yard and that they would most likely blast in the Fall and have it crushed the following year. No further discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes.*

**Article 8 passed.**

**Article 9.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Thousand One Hundred Seventy-Seven Dollars (\$5,177.00) to the Highway Bridge Replacement and Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established, with said funds to come from unassigned fund balance (These funds represent a One Time Bridge Repair Payment received from the State of New Hampshire). (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy. Selectman Beane explained that since our bridges had already been repaired, this remaining fund balance would be deposited into the capital reserve fund and not used for any other purpose. He also commented that the town had paid off in full the loan it took to repair the dam in town. Moderator Landry opened for discussion. No discussion. Emilie Smith moved to call the question. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes. Article 9 passed.*

**Article 10.** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2,000) to the Transfer Station Equipment & Repair Capital Reserve Fund previously established. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. Selectman Beane explained that these funds were to offset any damage or repair to equipment at the Lisbon transfer station. No further discussion. Emilie Smith moved to call the question. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes. Article 10 passed.*

**Article 11.** To see if the town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1-c for the purpose to defray the quinquennial (5-year) cost to update the town's Hazard Mitigation Plan and to raise and appropriate the sum of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) to be placed in this fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as Agents to Expend. (Majority vote required) (Recommended by the Selectmen)

*Moderator Landry read the Article which was moved by Selectman Smith and seconded by Selectman Beane. Moderator Landry explained that every five years, the town's Hazard Mitigation Plan is reviewed which requires an up-front payment for the review. The establishment of this capital reserve fund would save up enough funds to pay for the review. No further discussion. Moderator Landry took a vote on the article. All ayes. Article 11 passed.*

**Article 12.** To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy commented that the selectmen hoped to be able to use \$100,000 of budget surplus fund to bring down the town portion of the tax rate by an estimated \$1 per thousand.

*Selectman Beane thanked Greg Harville for all his work with the police study as well as his other work in support of the selectmen. Greg Harville then thanked Selectman Ho-Sing-Loy for her years of service to the town. Phil Clark thanked all the employees of the town for their hard work. Moderator Landry announced the upcoming school board meeting. He then called for a motion to adjourn. Phil Clark made the motion, seconded by Nancy Labbay. **Meeting adjourned at 8:23 pm.***

Given under our hands and seal this 12th day of March 2024.

The Lyman Board of Selectmen,

Bruce Beane, Chairman  
Wendy Ho-Sing-Loy  
Thomas Smith

Respectfully submitted,

Bethany Carignan, Lyman Town Clerk