



Lamoine Budget Committee

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Draft

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Minutes – December 12, 2022

Chair Merle Bragdon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Present were: Budget Committee members Mark Harris, Merle Bragdon, Gregg Tehennepe, Jeff Cosulich; Secretary/Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Kathleen Stanley (Lamoine Grange) and Select Board Chair Jo Cooper. Budget Committee members Greg Hiltz and Tiffany McMullen were unable to attend.

Minutes November 21, 2022 – Mark and Merle noted two minor corrections that should be made. Mark moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Jeff 2nd. **Vote in favor was 4-0.**

Budget Reviews – Ellsworth Library – Merle noted that Lamoine does not have its own library and the Ellsworth Library is a great value.

Recreation Budget – Merle noted the Recreation Committee budget is down a bit. Stu said the YMCA budget is the same as the past 25 years. Gregg asked about the Rec Committee decrease and a brief discussion followed. A brief discussion followed regarding athletic field maintenance.

Social Services – Kathleen Stanley was present to represent the Lamoine Grange, the only new funding request. She said the Grange building is used by Lamoine Community Arts (LCA), the Girl Scouts and for parking for many events. She said they must maintain the building or ownership would revert to the State Grange. She said they rent the building to Lamoine Community Arts for about \$1,000/year and LCA pays the heat and light bills, but no improvements to the building are made by LCA. She said they've gotten some grants for improvements and they get returnable bottle money from the town, and a small donation from the Blue Hill Fair. She said there is no real income source, so the Grange felt the town might be willing to help.

Mark said he endorses the request and noted the Grange serves as a mini community center. Jo said the new Committee on Aging has noted the Grange is much more accessible with the new ramp. Mrs. Stanley said there is now a heater in the basement. Merle said the Grange will likely hold a cribbage tournament this coming year.

Merle noted that Families First made no request last year and opted not to attend the town meeting. He said organizations can go to the town meeting directly.

Shellfishing Enforcement – Merle noted the \$3,000 request is unchanged from previous years. There was a brief discussion about the regional Shellfishing program and seaweed harvesting.

Capital Needs Budget – Merle noted the capital needs schedule was in the packet which looks out about 10-years.

Merle passed out a spreadsheet he had compiled comparing the budget to the previous year. He said there is about a \$320,000 increase in the municipal and county tax commitment proposed. Jo Cooper asked if that included use of surplus. Merle said the town has a healthy surplus and perhaps more than the proposed \$200,000 could be utilized. He said he did not include the school budget.

Stu reported the Fire Department has received \$15,000 from the Stephen & Tabitha King Foundation to use toward turnout gear. He said that could be either added as revenue or deducted from the capital expense line.

Recommendations

The following budget recommendations were approved:

Budget	Amount	Moved	2 nd	Vote
Waste Disposal/Recycling	\$197,180.00	Mark	Jeff	4-0
Library	\$89,600.00	Mark	Jeff	4-0
Administration	\$300,265.63	Mark	Gregg	4-0
Public Safety	\$114,125.00	Mark	Jeff	4-0
Capital Projects	\$121,417.97	Mark	Jeff	4-0
Parks/Recreation/Cemeteries	\$35,102.00	Mark	Gregg	4-0
Road Maintenance	\$254,637.50	Mark	Gregg	4-0
Code Enforcement/Planning	\$36,200.00	Gregg	Mark	4-0
Roads-Major Projects/Paving	\$311,000.00	Mark	Jeff	4-0
Social Services	\$9,900.00	Mark	Gregg	4-0
Shellfishing Enforcement	\$3,000.00	Mark	Gregg	4-0
Revenues	\$855,260.00	Gregg	Mark	4-0

A brief discussion followed regarding the Hancock County budget, the effect of the revaluation and the budget on the mill rate, and the state's property tax stabilization program for senior homesteaders.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Secretary

[\(go to full budget spreadsheet\)](#)