

Lincoln Budget Board

2/19/26 @ 7:00pm Carl Brunetti

Carl Brunetti, Bob Turner, Bruce Whitehead, Nicholas Rodrigues, **Andrew Esposito**, **Sandra Ackerman**, Dave Hart, Aidan Carey, **Jennifer Stadnik**, Marc Beaulieu, Michael Ferry.

Also in attendance: none

*if marked **red** this denotes absent

Presentation of Town Administrator's Recommended FY2026 Budget

The Town Administrator expressed appreciation and formally thanked the Budget Board Members for their dedication and the great work they do.

Budget Recommendations:

Municipal Operations Budget:

Recommended total: \$28,864,341.00

Municipal Capital Budget:

Recommended total: \$1,909,000.00

Education Operating Budget:

Recommended total: \$69,275,759.00, reflecting:

\$20,939,001.00 in state aid.

\$47,086,758.00 in local appropriations.

\$1,250,000.00 from others revenue.

Education Capital Budget:

Recommended Total: \$2,500,000.00

The Town Administrator also highlighted that the town secured over \$10 million in grants, including \$1.5 million for the Front Street streetscape project. The town also completed major school renovations and upgraded recreational facilities. The discussion included concerns about future financial stability, tax levy, and the impact of state policies on local budget.

Public Comment:

None

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes 01/29/26

Motion by Bruce Whitehead to approve and second by Nicholas Rodrigues unanimous.

Correspondence:

Received phone calls from the Town Administrator and Finance Director regarding the budget.

Received capital request details from the School Business Administrator.

New Business:

FY26 Budgets:

Town Council meeting on 2/5/26 indicates that FY26 tax collections are on target, with quarterly payments received and posted. The third quarter payments were due January 30, 2026, and the fourth quarter payments are due April 30, 2026. Casino commissions through 12/31, 26 show table game receipts at 69% of the comparable weeks in FY2018.

Expenditures:

FY26 in progress.

On the school side, report indicating a projected surplus of \$1543.00 and an unrestricted fund balance of \$743,712.00. The school department is trending towards a minimal surplus for FY26, with an extra \$502,000.00 received from the state.

FY27 Municipal Budgets:

We just received a copy of the recommended budget.

FY 27 Education Budgets:

The FY27 education budget was discussed, including a decrease in town appropriation from 3.75% to 3%. The need for backup worksheets was identified, as these were not included in the original PDF.

FY 27 Budget Tasks/Responsibilities:

The Budget Board Members debated a hybrid approach to budget review, emphasizing efficiency and understanding. They also discussed the inclusion of anticipated salary increases in FY27 Municipal Budget, with a \$350,000.00 allocation for fixed charges.

Public Comment:

None.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Bruce Whitehead and second by Nicholas Rodrigues @8:30pm

Next Meeting date:

2/24/26 @ 7PM
2/26/26 @ 7PM