

**Town of Lincoln**  
100 Old River Road  
Lincoln, Rhode Island 02865

**Budget Board**

**Linda Butera Noble**  
Chairperson

**Gregory Leonard**  
Vice Chairperson

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**MARCH 1, 2011**

**AN OPEN INVITATION TO THE LINCOLN TAXPAYER,**

The Lincoln Budget Board has begun its budget process. On **Wednesday, March 9, 2011** at 7:30PM in Town Hall, we will review the School Committee's budget request for FY12. On **Wednesday, March 16, 2011** at 7:30PM in Town Hall, we will review the Town Administrator's proposed budget. On **Thursday, March 24, 2011** at 7:30PM in Town Hall, we will meet with the Town Council and any Board or Commission interested in addressing the Budget Board with regards to their budget as proposed by the Town Administrator.

On **Wednesday, March 30, 2011**, the Lincoln Budget Board will host its annual **Public Hearing** of the Town Administrator's proposed 2011-2012 Budget. The Town Administrator has submitted his budget recommendations for the municipal and school budgets for July 1, 2011-June 30, 2012. This meeting is open to the public and will take place at Lincoln **Town Hall Council Chambers at 7:00PM.**

The actual budget process begins in earnest every year in early January when the School Department makes its recommendation to the School Committee. Once the proposed school budget is developed, reviewed and adopted, it is then forwarded to the Town Administrator for his review and subsequent 'bottom-line' recommendation. The education bottom-line is then included as a single expense line in the municipal budget. The Town Administrator then submits his proposal to the Budget Board by mid-February.

The Budget Board's budget process:

- Schedule meetings and work sessions between (1) Town Administrator and Finance Director; (2) School Superintendent, School Budget Director, Director of Buildings, Grounds and Transportation and the Lincoln School Committee; (3) Boards and Commissions; (4) Lincoln Town Council; (5) Public.
- Validate Revenue Sources and Expense Requests.
- Host Public Hearing to review Town Administrator's proposal.
- Submit a budget for consideration at the annual Financial Town Meeting.
- Ratify the budget as passed at the Financial Town Meeting.

The budget that will be presented for your consideration at the Financial Town Meeting on May 9, 2011 may be different than the budget that is distributed at the Public Hearing. The Town Administrator's proposal will undergo several levels of scrutiny and adjustments. Any adjustments that we recommend must still comply with the statutory requirements to support education as set forth in the "maintenance of effort" provisions, as well as the "S-3050" (R.I.G.L. 44-5-2) which caps local funding (levy) at 4.0% in FY2012. The final budget that we propose will be deemed fiscally responsible, affordable and sufficient to meet the overall needs to support our municipal and school operations.

The Public Hearing and the Financial Town Meeting are your opportunities to participate in this extremely important process. You may review the Town Administrator's recommended budget online at [www.lincolnri.org](http://www.lincolnri.org). On April 8, 2011, the Budget Board's recommendation will be delivered to the Town Clerk for printing and distribution. It will be available online until the Financial Town Meeting.

We appreciate the trust and confidence that the taxpayers of Lincoln have shown us in the past and look forward to your support at the **Financial Town Meeting** scheduled for **Monday, May 9, 2011 at 7:00PM.**

Respectfully Submitted by the Town Of Lincoln Budget Board Members,  
Claudette J. Lussier  
Corresponding Secretary

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**All Meetings will be held in accordance with RI Open Meetings Laws.**