

**Lyme Planning Board Minutes**  
**6/10/2021**

Board Members and Staff Present: John Stadler, Chair; Tim Cook, Vice Chair; Vicki Smith, Member; Eric Furstenberg, Member; Rich Brown, Alternate; David Robbins, Planning and Zoning Administrator.

Board Members Absent: Ben Kilham, Select Board Representative; David Van Wie, Alternate;

Members of the Public Present: None

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions, the Board met on-line via Zoom.

John opened the meeting by reading the Right to Know Checklist and taking a roll call attendance.

**Item 1: Acceptance of minutes from 5/20/2021 and 05/27/2021**

John asked if there was any discussion on the minutes of 05/20/2021. There being none, he moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Eric seconded the motion. John called for a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously with Vicki Smith and Rich Brown abstaining as they were not present at the site visit.

John asked if there was any discussion on the minutes of 05/27/2021. There was none. He made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Vicki seconded the motion. John called for a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 2: Master Plan Energy Chapter.**

The Board reviewed the chapter and recommendations. They made some minor changes in formatting and wording for clarity.

John asked the Board if they believed that the chapter was ready for a public hearing. The consensus of the Board was that it was ready.

The Board discussed possible dates and chose their meeting date of July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021

John moved to send the Energy Chapter to a public hearing on Thursday July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

Tim seconded the motion. John called for a roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**Item 3: Discussion of solar energy generation as a principle and accessory use.**

The Planning and Zoning Administrator noted that currently solar systems are considered structures and are regulated as such.

Tim expressed some concern about the visual impact of the panels and associated equipment and wondered if there should be a system that notified abutters that a system was to be installed.

Eric noted that the Board had just voted to send the Energy Chapter to a public hearing and, in that chapter, the second recommendation was to make zoning recommendations that made renewable energy sources more permissible. He wanted to ensure that the Board did not end up creating more restrictions while trying to make it easier.

John suggested that the Board create some provisional definitions for solar systems then start working from there. Vicki suggested that the Planning and Zoning Administrator write the first draft as they will be the one to enforce the ordinance. The Administrator agreed to write the first draft. They will write definitions for building and ground mounted systems that are an accessory use and for systems that are a primary use.

**Item 4: New business -- End of on-line meetings.**

The Planning and Zoning Administrator stated that the Governor's Emergency Order that allowed the Board to meet on-line was set to expire. They noted that the Select Board would be discussing opening up the Town's buildings at the next Select Board meeting. When more information was available, they would pass it along to the members.

At 8:49 pm, John moved to adjourn the meeting.

Tim seconded the motion.

The board unanimously approved the motion via a roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

David A. Robbins

Lyme Planning and Zoning Administrator.