

TOWN OF LYME
Select Board Meeting
January 20th, 2022
9:00 AM
Approved: January 27th, 2022

The following people were present for part or all of the meeting: Select Board members Judith Brotman, Benjamin Kilham and David Kahn; Administrator Dina Cutting
Public: Rich Brown, John Biglow, Michael Whitman

The Town buildings are open to the public following the lapse of Governor Sununu's Emergency Orders. The Town is following CDC guidance on masking and distancing. The Board will be meeting via Zoom and in person. The location of the meeting is 1 High Street, the Town Office conference room. If you come to this location you must wear a mask when entering the building and while in the conference room.

Anyone not wishing to attend the Board meeting in person may do so by dialing in on one of the publicized Zoom Meeting conference numbers.

Please call in on the conference number: Join Zoom Meeting 877 853 5247 US Toll-free 888 788 0099/US Toll-free 833 548 0276/US Toll-free 833 548 0282 US Toll-free
Meeting ID: 841 2677 4343

Access is for voice only at this time. If you can't access the conference number please email dina@lymenh.gov. All incoming public lines will be muted except during periods of public comments. A role call will be conducted to indicate public members attending via phone.

1. At 9:04 AM Mrs. Brotman opened the meeting. This is a working meeting to finalize the Warrant Articles for presentation to the Budget Committee Public Hearing. Limited public input will be allowed.
2. Public comment:
 - a. Michael Whitman informed the board that the Town of Lyme website is out of date and could use some attention. Members of the public are interpreting this as a lack of transparency. Mrs. Brotman assured Mr. Whitman that we are working to update the website, as the Board does want to be as transparent as possible.
 - b. Rich Brown appreciates the electronic zoom access. Mr. Brown explained that it is hard to follow the meetings without video access. He inquired if the Board would be open to using the video option for meetings. The Board will consider trying to get "up to speed" with the newest technology via Zoom and the "Owl".
3. The Board reviewed the manifest. Mr. Kahn moved to approve the manifest. Mrs. Brotman seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.
4. The Board has been receiving comments about the zoom link and agenda being accessible on the Lyme listserve posting. It was noted that in the past the Boards decision was to not post all meeting agendas, minutes and other information on the Lyme listserve in order to encourage community members to go directly to the Town website, plus the Lyme list serve is not a town-sponsored listserve but it is a private one. The Select Board office will change this procedure if that is what the Board prefers.
5. The Select Board discussed a potential warrant article for 2022 Town Meeting:

- a. The Board reviewed letters from the current Treasurer and Tax Collector expressing their positions on the proposed warrant article to change these positions from elected to appointed. The current Treasurer believes that with the technical requirements (must be strong in accounting, as well as other skills specific to each position) of the position it should be appointed. The current Tax Collector believes it should be elected and the town citizens should have the opportunity to vote for their Tax Collector. At this time the office has not heard back from Ms. Grandine, our Overseer of Town Welfare but last year when this warrant was proposed Ms. Grandine was in support of making it an appointed position.
 - b. If these articles do not pass the Board is wondering if it is possible to have some sort of screening/interview process before the election of the positions. It is very important that technically qualified candidates are placed in all of these positions.
 - c. The Board is wondering if they can vet and support a candidate for this position.
 - d. Mrs. Cutting is going to check with Town Council on these questions. Once Mrs. Cutting gets this information the Board will consider the proposed warrant articles.
6. The board briefly reviewed the remaining warrant articles and any grammatical changes.
 7. At this moment in time Town Meeting is scheduled for March 8th, 2022 at the Lyme School Community Room for both the election and the business meeting.
 8. Mrs. Cutting has reached out to the Department of Revenue to see if they have a general presentation available to explain the general procedure of assessments and property taxes.
 9. At 9:44 AM Mr. Kilham moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kahn seconded the motion. Voted unanimously by roll call vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Jordan Toland

Interested Lyme residents are welcome to attend in person. [Masks will be required and appropriate social distancing will be observed.] As a convenience to Lyme residents, we will also attempt to permit participation electronically via Zoom, however, electronic participation can be subject to various technological challenges, some of which are outside the Town's control or beyond our technical ability to address. In the past, some residents who have attempted to participate in meetings electronically have been unable to do so or have otherwise been dissatisfied. While we will always try hard to get the technology to work properly, if participation in this meeting is important to you, in-person attendance is more reliable and considerably less prone to technical problems.