

TOWN OF LYME  
Select Board Meeting  
Tuesday, March, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022  
2:30 PM  
Approved: March 10<sup>th</sup>, 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, Police Chief Shaun O'Keefe, and Town Clerk Patricia Jenks via Zoom.

Public: John Biglow, Hebe Quinton, Sarah Jane, Betsy Uline, Michael Whitman and 3 unidentified zoom attendants.

1. At 2:35 PM Mrs. Brotman opened the meeting.
2. Mrs. Brotman stated that this is a Board meeting to discuss Little Town Meeting, The public is welcome to listen, but there will be no public comments at this time.
3. Little Town Meeting has been in planning over the past two months. With concerns over COVID-19 the Board initially thought there would be no Little Town Meeting this year. In continuing discussions, it appeared that we could have a LTM option using ZOOM. The Board wanted to hold this meeting via ZOOM to reduce the number of times we gather as a larger group to prevent exposure of COVID-19 and other sicknesses. Within the past week the Select Board received a letter that was challenging the legality of this zoom-only-meeting. Referencing the opinion of Town Council, it appears the only way to hold Little Town Meeting is to offer a public area for community members to come in person to this meeting if they prefer. This (LTM) must follow the NH RSA for public meetings.  
The Board reviewed and discussed the options of reposting this meeting with the conference room open to the public or canceling this meeting. Following a discussion it was noted that this meeting could occur if it reposted as a candidate introduction forum only. With the limited time frame to repost this meeting Mrs. Brotman feels that it is best to cancel Little Town Meeting this year.
4. Mr. Kahn noted that clearly people care about this annual pre-Town Meeting custom, it would be nice to still offer the candidates forum if possible. Both Ben and David wanted to ask Mr. Peterson if he would consider moving forward with a candidate only forum. This would not involve the Select Board, thus removing the notice and public attendance requirements.
5. Mrs. Brotman reached Mr. Peterson on the phone during this meeting. Mr. Peterson feels it is unfortunate but he hasn't heard that any candidates planned to attend and speak at the meeting, it is extremely late to attempt to change the venue, he is not prepared for this revised event, and so he feels it would be better to cancel Little Town Meeting this year.
6. Mr. Kahn will write a letter explaining how the Board came to the decision of cancelling Little Town Meeting and he will send it to Mrs. Cutting to post on the website and the Lyme list serve.
7. At 3:00PM Mr. Kahn moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kilham seconded the motion. Voted unanimously in favor 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.*