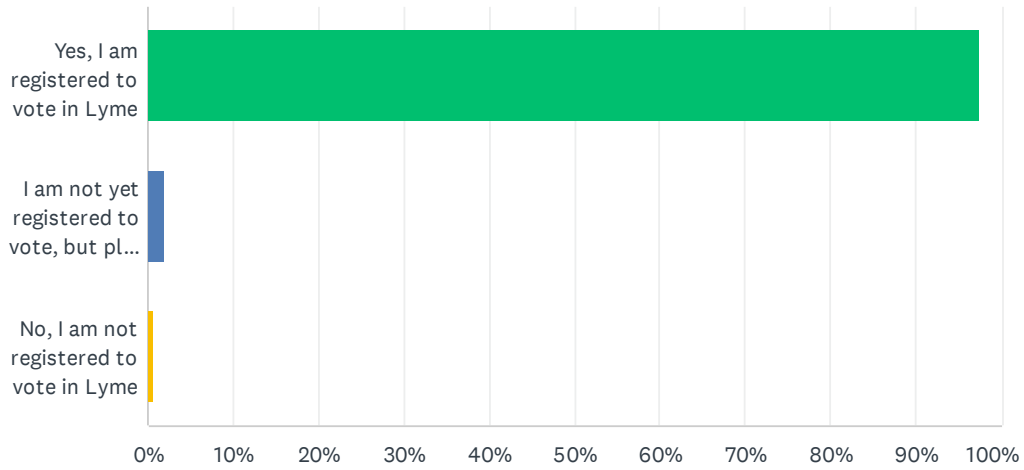


Q1 Are you registered to vote in Lyme?

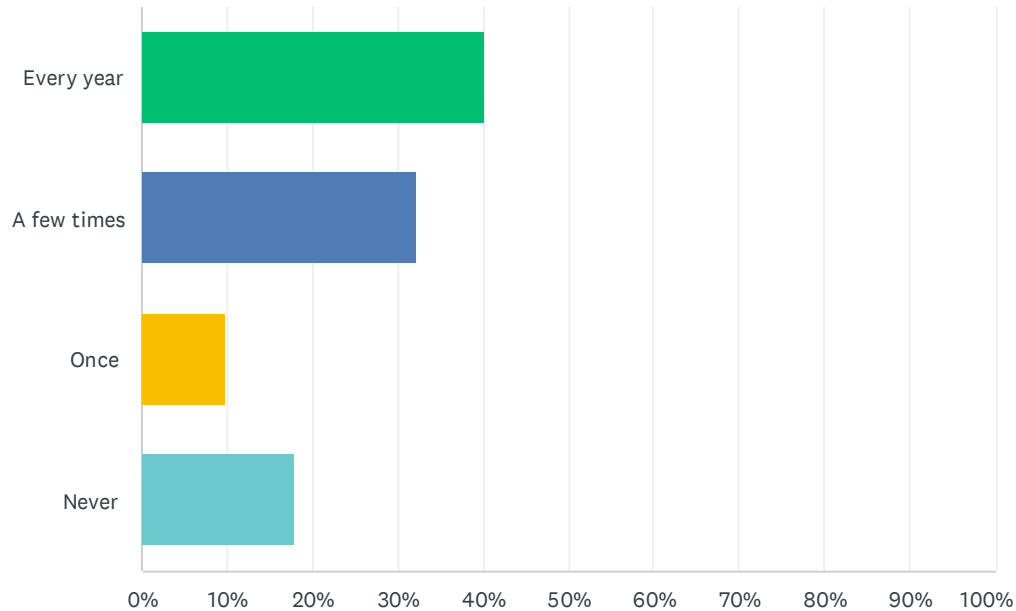
Answered: 160 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I am registered to vote in Lyme	97.50%	156
I am not yet registered to vote, but plan to register	1.88%	3
No, I am not registered to vote in Lyme	0.63%	1
TOTAL		160

Q2 In the past five years how many times have you attended the Annual Town Business Meeting (“Town Meeting”)?

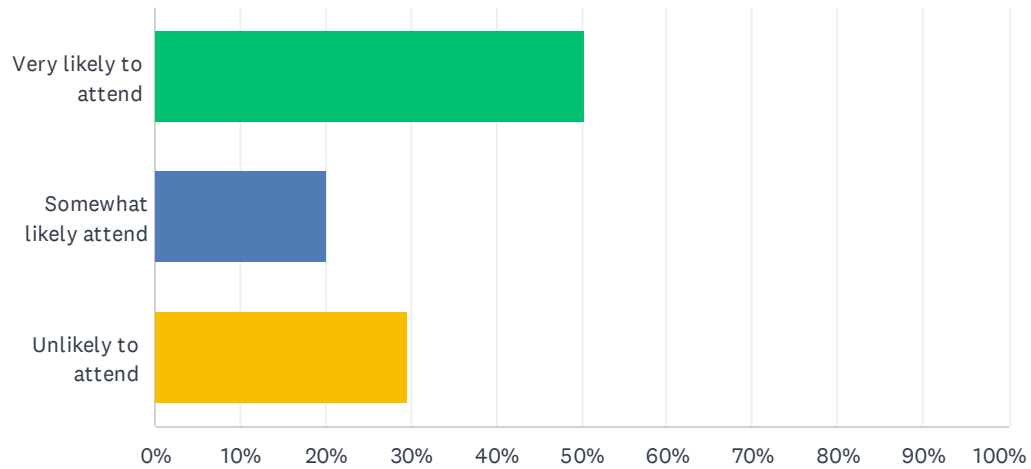
Answered: 162 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Every year	40.12%	65
A few times	32.10%	52
Once	9.88%	16
Never	17.90%	29
TOTAL		162

Q3 How likely are you to attend Town Meeting in March of 2026 if Town Meeting were to be held . . . on the same day as the municipal elections (March 10), starting at 9:00 am?

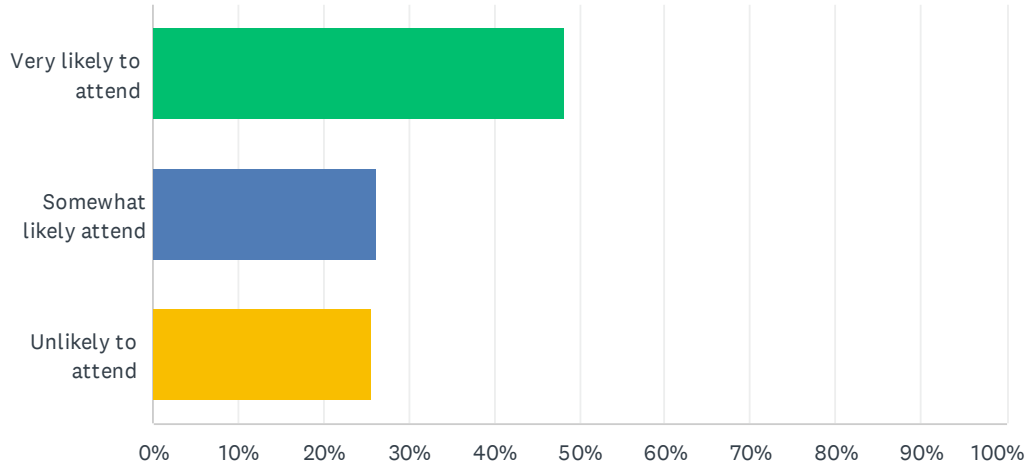
Answered: 159 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend	50.31%	80
Somewhat likely attend	20.13%	32
Unlikely to attend	29.56%	47
TOTAL		159

Q4 . . . On the same day as the municipal elections (March 10), starting at 4:00 pm?

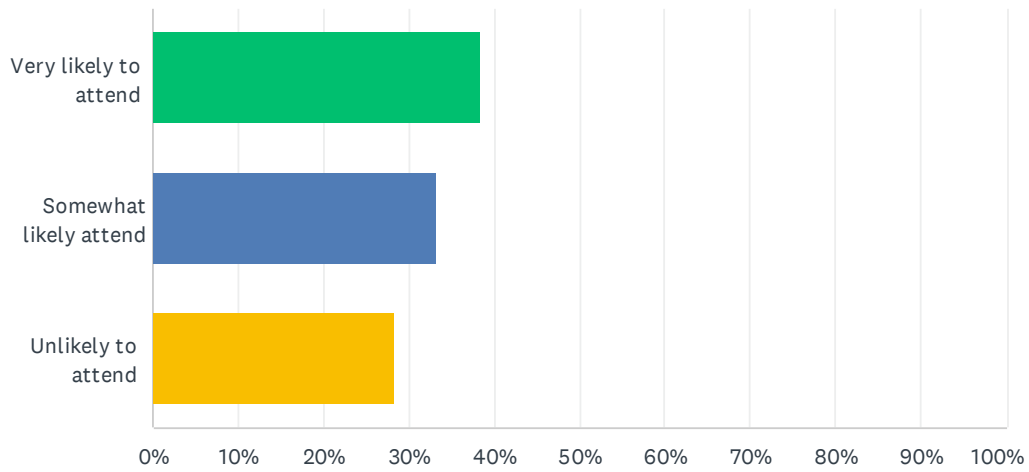
Answered: 160 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend	48.13%	77
Somewhat likely attend	26.25%	42
Unlikely to attend	25.62%	41
TOTAL		160

Q5 . . . On a different weekday in March evening starting at 4:00 pm?

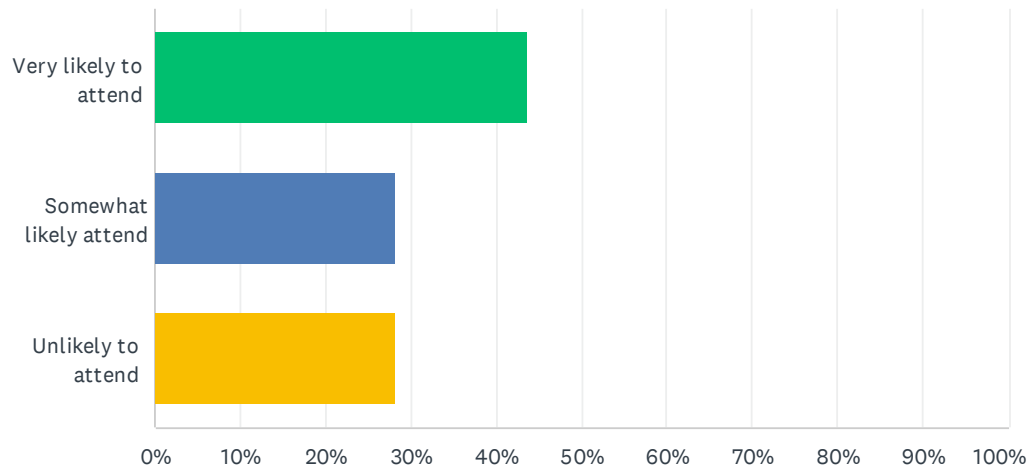
Answered: 159 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend	38.36%	61
Somewhat likely attend	33.33%	53
Unlikely to attend	28.30%	45
TOTAL		159

Q6 . . . On a different weekday evening in March starting at 6:00 pm?

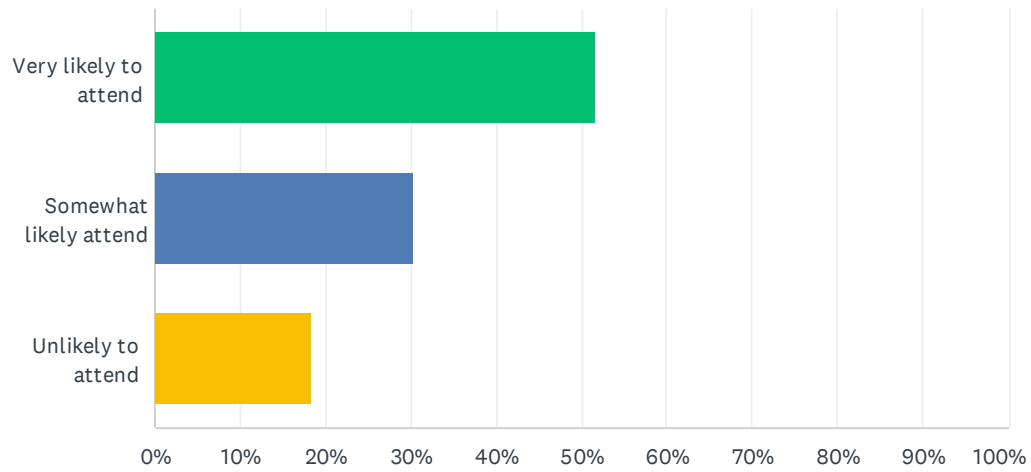
Answered: 160 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend	43.75%	70
Somewhat likely attend	28.13%	45
Unlikely to attend	28.13%	45
TOTAL		160

Q7 . . . On a Saturday morning in March, starting at 9:00 am?

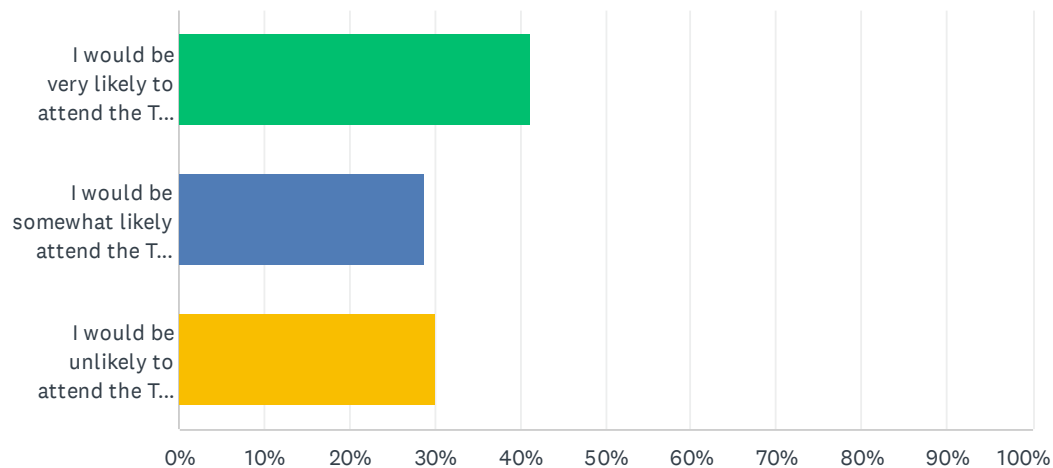
Answered: 159 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend	51.57%	82
Somewhat likely attend	30.19%	48
Unlikely to attend	18.24%	29
TOTAL		159

Q8 What if it were on a weekday in March, back-to-back with the School District Meeting? – so for instance, the Town Meeting would start at 3:00pm and the School District meeting at 6:00 or 7:00pm? (Please note this may not be logistically possible, but we are curious as to whether people would be interested in that model).

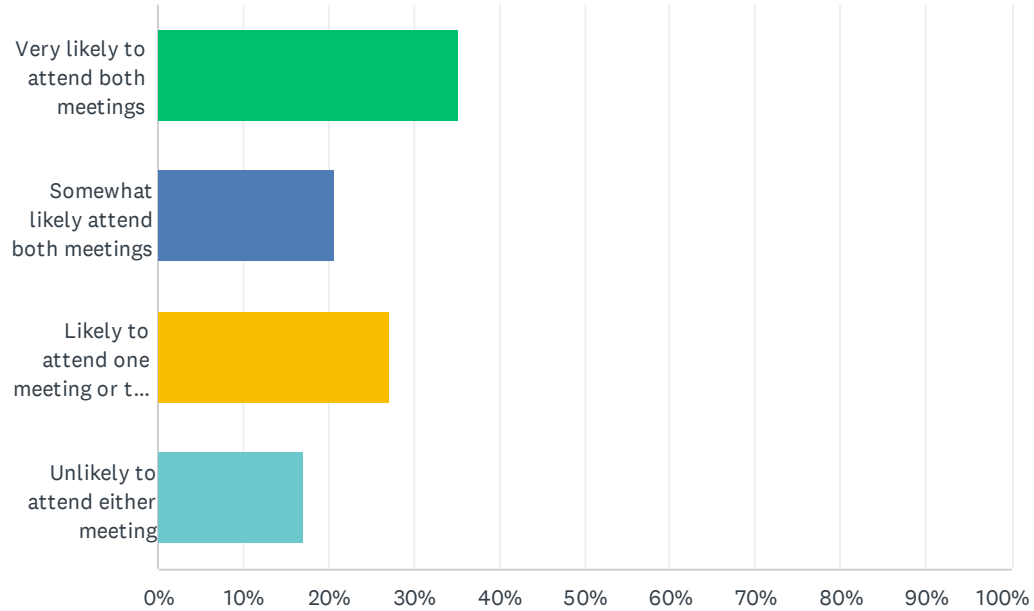
Answered: 160 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I would be very likely to attend the Town Meeting	41.25%	66
I would be somewhat likely attend the Town Meeting	28.75%	46
I would be unlikely to attend the Town Meeting	30.00%	48
TOTAL		160

Q9 If that were the case, how likely would you be to attend BOTH the Town Meeting and the School District meeting?

Answered: 159 Skipped: 3



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very likely to attend both meetings	35.22%	56
Somewhat likely attend both meetings	20.75%	33
Likely to attend one meeting or the other	27.04%	43
Unlikely to attend either meeting	16.98%	27
TOTAL		159

Q10 Do you have any more thoughts on the subject of scheduling annual meetings that you would like to share?

Answered: 83 Skipped: 79

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Thank you for your openness to trying new things, and for asking for our feedback. For me, an evening meeting is ALWAYS better as i have a pretty busy job, as does my wife, and missing the better part of a workday is a nonstarter. We both participate a lot in Lyme life and have two kids in the school so we'd like to participate when possible but that is hard to do when so may Lyme municipal meetings are all timed for retirees like at 10 AM on a Monday.	12/8/2025 10:41 PM
2	just another thing to change to suit the upper crust. we tried Saturdays a long time ago and attendance was way down. change is good but why?	12/8/2025 4:35 PM
3	Attendance depends somewhat on the importance of agenda items. Do not favor back to back School District and Town meetings. Too long a day for most people. Attendance would dwindle as the day went on. Basically, think the current schedule is the best compromise. Thanks.	12/8/2025 9:59 AM
4	Thanks for trying to make it so that working families (non-retired people in town) can attend these important meetings.	12/8/2025 7:51 AM
5	Please move town meeting to a weekend! It's hard to attend when you have a 9-5 job.	12/8/2025 7:05 AM
6	was starting a 10 a.m. an option (on the usual day for town meeting)?	12/7/2025 3:56 PM
7	The town should provide childcare, by way of using 8th graders as a fundraiser, on a non-school day, so that parents can attend.	12/7/2025 10:37 AM
8	It's a question of overcoming demographics, duration, defeat. The largest demographic in town is at work or dealing with kids at home/bringing kids to and from extra-curriculars. Young families are taking care of young children and babies. 6pm is prime time to get to bed time. Maybe a older child too... 4pm is better but who takes the kids? Middle- and High School-aged children are being shuttled back and forth between xc, alpine, hockey. basketball. things in Lebanon and WRJ... i.e. music lesson here, horseback indoor ring there, indoor sport this and that in far away place here and there ... all of which have practice and meetings most weekdays. A Saturday morning? The sports: Weekend-long hockey tournament up at Jay Peak, basketball game in Plainfield, all-day XC meet Hanover, two day Alpine at Cranmore, general riding, music, art etc... Or siblings dragged along with siblings who have longer or more remote activities. Weekdays: tired hungry, kids and adults get home at 6, 630, 7...even later... Maybe the parent is on carpool. The other parents in the family, likely both, (or the single parent) work until 430-6. 6/7. It is a lot to go to a meeting at this point (or come home early). Especially for one over an hour. To give you a reference point -- the PTO in Lyme meets by zoom a few times a year. I've lived in other places and it was always in person--a touchpoint. People are too busy or working for such an in-person meeting here, even if they can bring kids along, or meet daytime or evening. The PTO just dissolves. Community involvement is important, and it's really great to put this out there in terms of finding a better solution for people. I'm just adding my two cents to say that there is a large group of people who may not have time no matter when you hold the meeting. The other issue confounding your results may be that there is less (relative) community engagement in Lyme within the demographic of people actively raising school-aged children. Potential mitigation: 1. moving the meeting time to a weeknight 6pm after work and extracurriculars are more likely finished as you've floated here 2. advertising the time as a finite, well-moderated window 3. better communicating why attending actually matters 4. food, dinner, care? Lots of ideas. Above all, food usually works, if ever there was such a budget. Primal instinct to eat.	12/7/2025 7:26 AM
9	Town meeting at 9am during the week does not work very well for anyone who works a regular 9-5 job. Late afternoon or evening option makes a lot of sense. Thanks for thinking about a new way to deliver direct democracy!	12/6/2025 9:03 PM
10	I REALLY REALLY THINK BOTH THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING AND THE TOWN MEETING NEED TO BE ON SATURDAY. THE SCHOOL BOARD MEETING IS TOO LATE	12/6/2025 8:06 PM

Lyme Town Business Meeting Scheduling

FOR ALL THE OLD PEOPLE IN LYME WHO ARE THE MOST IMPACTED BY THE EVER INCREASING TAXES

11	Pay Megan (who provides afterschool care at Lyme) to offer childcare in the gym (crafts) and outside (games) so that parents can attend.	12/6/2025 4:35 PM
12	For towns people who work 9-5, attending town meetings simply isn't reasonable. After work hours makes it attainable.	12/6/2025 9:42 AM
13	I think having both on the same day is a good thing. Life is so busy it seems more would take time to take 1 day to get both done. Less time off for work.	12/6/2025 8:05 AM
14	I was able to regularly attend in the past (pre-pandemic), but my current work situation is much less flexible, so the full-day option feels nearly impossible. I imagine that an option that involved LESS of the work day (starting mid to late afternoon, for example) would possibly allow more folks to attend.	12/6/2025 7:26 AM
15	As a 7 month resident, who returns for 2 weeks in early March, I would prefer that both meetings occur prior to March 15th, whether on a weekday or weekend day.	12/5/2025 11:10 PM
16	We're a household with 2 working parents, so evenings are typically best.	12/5/2025 10:31 PM
17	Saturday meetings makes sense to me. Please note that my answers to many of these questions are caused by my disability, which makes attendance difficult/not possible at least for now. Before my disability, I attended all the meetings as did Barbara, my wife.	12/5/2025 8:22 PM
18	I think night meetings are not convenient for older people. I think Tues. mornings are hard for people working to get the day off. I know Sat. AM was tried before but the advantages that most people have off, daylight for seniors, & having child care on site is worth another try. Also, 2 big meetings in 1 day is too much for the brain to handle !!	12/5/2025 7:35 PM
19	Select board evenings also	12/5/2025 6:20 PM
20	Childcare would be key for my attendance!	12/5/2025 4:00 PM
21	Both are too much for one day...	12/5/2025 3:46 PM
22	I think the school district meeting and town meeting should be held on separate days — it is just too much in one day , and would be hard for people with children to find arrangements for that long . Welcome a change to LATE Afternoon/ early evening for the town meeting . It is impossible for working people , especially those in essential positions to take a weekday morning off to attend .	12/5/2025 3:29 PM
23	if it were on the weekend...we might get more families if we planned things for the children to do ... and had a potluck meal after. make it a more community business and fun time.	12/5/2025 3:24 PM
24	no	12/5/2025 2:44 PM
25	Put the town meeting on Saturday morning, for sure!!	12/5/2025 2:39 PM
26	Separate deliberative and voting.	12/5/2025 2:17 PM
27	It would be good to encourage more people to come, but I believe the Town tried changing to Saturday several years ago and it didn't seem to change attendance. Also, evening meetings are hard for many older people especially in colder months.	12/5/2025 1:18 PM
28	Thank you for pondering these good questions. It is often hard to get out of work for the meeting and even if I can, it is a vacation day and those are very precious.	12/5/2025 12:43 PM
29	An afternoon start might get people who otherwise have to work.	12/5/2025 12:28 PM
30	How does our attendance compare to towns like Hanover that hold their meetings on Sat mornings in May?	12/5/2025 12:09 PM
31	Saturday would work best to schedule either Town Meeting or School District Meeting. If both were scheduled on that same Saturday, you'd want to get the first one started by 10 am.	12/5/2025 11:54 AM
32	I have always been fortunate to be able to attend. However, I think it's awful that because of when it is, people have to miss because they have to work. That's unfair to them and our community as their voices are not heard. Back to back meetings is too long. Think about	12/5/2025 11:52 AM

Lyme Town Business Meeting Scheduling

childcare, people who can't sit that long, people getting hangry, frustrations building, etc I appreciate this survey! Thank you!

33	Thank you for this work to make the meetings work for more of us, and particularly for those of us with kids!	12/5/2025 11:49 AM
34	It should be on a Sat. so all the younger working people, who we want to be active in town, can attend. Let's try it for one year to see how it goes. I wouldn't like it to be on an evening. Please, please take some time to train people how to use the microphone so we ancients can hear. Thank you for your caring and respect for all the people in town. Bravo!	12/5/2025 10:42 AM
35	As a retired person, I am very flexible. But I would hope that the timing will be such that younger and working folks can attend.	12/5/2025 10:16 AM
36	Thanks for considering this important question. I'm retired so will always attend Town Meeting as long as I am in town on that date.	12/5/2025 9:38 AM
37	I've always wanted to attend the meeting, but it is difficult with work. I would have to take a vacation day a weekday evening would be better or a weekend.	12/5/2025 9:36 AM
38	Thank you for bringing this up. I think if Town meeting were held on a Saturday many more people including myself would be able to attend. Because of the current day/ timing I am never able to attend. Again, thank you for raising the topic.	12/5/2025 9:32 AM
39	I'm retired so easy for me. When I was working g hours made it impossible. I'm here to assist in anyway Gayle Krater	12/5/2025 9:30 AM
40	I rarely attended in the past because I had to work and meetings were weekdays. That would have changed were meetings on weekends. But answers above reflect my recent retirement.	12/5/2025 9:24 AM
41	I'm a new resident with two small kids. I'm eager to get involved in local affairs but I'm giving my opinion on a theoretical basis. After this year I'll better understand the system and will be able to give a more clear opinion on scheduling.	12/5/2025 9:19 AM
42	I commend you for trying to find a way for more citizens to attend Town Meeting. I am retired, so it is easy for me to attend on Tuesdays, but I think changing to Saturday is worth trying in order to get more participants. Kudos to you both!	12/5/2025 9:17 AM
43	It would just be great if the meeting could be held in the evening so working parents could attend. Thank u!	12/5/2025 9:15 AM
44	I like the idea of same-day meetings, but back-to-back meetings would be incredibly tiring. I know that you are trying to find a great solution, but I'm not sure that there is one. Sorry!	12/5/2025 9:11 AM
45	Totally agree moving this to after 5pm. Hope you can make it happen. Thanks	12/5/2025 9:05 AM
46	Until Town Meeting is made a serious holiday, it is very difficult to miss work for the meeting(s). I strongly recommend a weekend day. You could also add some sociability with a lunch and/or dinner availability.	12/4/2025 10:01 PM
47	My schedule is currently flexible so I will attend whenever the meetings take place as long as I don't have a conflict, I support whatever solution gets the most participation from the town, we definitely need more people to attend!	12/4/2025 3:53 PM
48	Thank you!	12/4/2025 10:56 AM
49	Thank you for asking for input.	12/4/2025 10:30 AM
50	I would be in favor of the option that best allows residents with fixed income and without children in school to attend.	12/4/2025 10:24 AM
51	As a working person the only way my husband and I can attend town meeting is if it happens after 5pm or on a Saturday. Thank you!	12/4/2025 9:54 AM
52	Best to have both meetings (school and town) meetings on the same day, preferably Saturday to accommodate working people, and have them one after the other on that day.	12/4/2025 8:42 AM
53	I think it would be best if the School district and town meetings are held together back-to-back to get the most attendance for both meetings	12/4/2025 8:41 AM
54	Very different groups show up at town vs. district meeting. And meetings often coincide with	12/4/2025 8:40 AM

Lyme Town Business Meeting Scheduling

work or kids commitments... one idea is to move to voting by ballot, instead of during these meetings so people with conflicts still can cast their vote.

55	Please bring back Little Town meeting where there where there has typically been a lot of discussion about the warrant articles. Also I'd suggest that night meetings or weekend meeting would be more popular for non retired folks.	12/4/2025 8:02 AM
56	I'm retired, so I can attend town meeting whenever it is. But the room is full of retirees and I'd like to make it possible for a wider range of ages to attend. I will go with consensus.	12/4/2025 7:46 AM
57	How about both on Saturday- consecutively, of course!	12/4/2025 7:34 AM
58	I feel that holding the meeting on a weekday during working hours unfairly enhances the voter from retirees and independently wealthy individuals.	12/4/2025 7:29 AM
59	People have JOBS! Hold Town meeting outside normal work hours!!!	12/4/2025 6:57 AM
60	I think this is the appropriate avenue to take. The school budget meeting is not well attended by "the older generations" in this town that are being left out and lied to by our school district administrators.	12/4/2025 6:41 AM
61	I'm very keen to engage but cannot attend daytime meetings. I can probably swing 4p onwards, but 6p better. Thank you for considering these options to better enable those of us working during the day to attend!	12/4/2025 6:24 AM
62	We have tried Saturday, but that conflicted with the last day the Skyway was open -- ergo very low attendance.	12/3/2025 9:16 PM
63	Don't put the two meetings on the same day..... Too much meeting time to sit!	12/3/2025 8:50 PM
64	Finding a way to combine the town meeting and school budget meeting is the most fair and realistic way to get more people involved to vote on such large financial decisions for all. Taxes are painfully high and in my circle more people are complaining but feel completely helpless to have a voice in change. Something has to change to benefit more people. My work schedule makes it difficult to carve out 1 night and 1 day to be able to attend both.	12/3/2025 7:24 PM
65	It is only logical to have BOTH the town and the school meetings on the same day so everyone votes on all the topics on hand and has a role in the budgets of both the town, which is very modest, in comparison to the school, which is unsustainable. We need more input into the school budget!	12/3/2025 6:59 PM
66	I like the combined meetings on Saturday idea. They do it in Thetford. 1/2 day for the town meeting and 1/2 day for the school meeting.	12/3/2025 6:52 PM
67	Need to get more residents to the school meetings!	12/3/2025 5:36 PM
68	We should adopt SB2 and hold the Town Meeting deliberative session back to back with the District Meeting.	12/3/2025 5:32 PM
69	I think if you are motivated to attend the meetings, you will attend whenever they are held!1	12/3/2025 5:16 PM
70	Should be held on the weekend, so the most people have an opportunity to attend.	12/3/2025 5:10 PM
71	Saturday would be best. Offer childcare. Younger workforce could then attend.	12/3/2025 5:04 PM
72	Don't start the meetings late in the day if you want us to come. School meeting at 6 pm is a horrible time already for people who don't want to drive in the dark and have the meeting right at dinner time.	12/3/2025 4:57 PM
73	Town Meetings on a Tuesday during the day make it VERY hard for those who need to maintain their work schedules to attend, or at least come and learn, be informed, etc. Later in the days and Saturday meeting(s) might encourage more folks to attend! Thanks for doing this...	12/3/2025 4:52 PM
74	Earlier in the day is better than later in the day.	12/3/2025 4:25 PM
75	Thanks for tackling the challenge of trying to schedule meetings when more residents could attend!	12/3/2025 4:12 PM
76	Whatever schedule makes it possible for more people to attend is the way to go.	12/3/2025 4:08 PM
77	Having school and town meetings on the same day is best - generally old folks go to town	12/3/2025 3:50 PM

Lyme Town Business Meeting Scheduling

meeting and the parents go to the school meeting, and the school budget is 3 TIMES the town budget.

78	The current model seems very challenging for individuals who work or who are home with children. Nonetheless, a weekend morning would be EQUALLY challenging (if not harder). It seems the meetings should be held in the evenings, on two separate dates.	12/3/2025 3:47 PM
79	Daytime on a Tuesday (or any weekday) is challenging because I work full time. My work is highly amenable to creating time for employees to vote by ballot on election day but to have to go to a town meeting and be there all or most of the day to register a vote is not something they understand. I have been lucky in some years, if there are no meetings, it's no problem to not be present. But, often, I am expected to attend a meeting, in which case, I cannot go to town meeting, which is disappointing as I enjoy participating and voting. Town + School on the same day, late afternoon>evening sounds amazing.	12/3/2025 3:47 PM
80	Thanks for doing this poll!	12/3/2025 3:43 PM
81	I think it's worth trying back to back meetings to try to increase participation in both meetings, and a better demographic distribution of attendees.	12/3/2025 3:42 PM
82	I think the town needs to do a better job of having meetings when people who have full time jobs can attend. Currently it seems most town business is scheduled around people who are retired and done having and raising children. At face value this seems to cut off a large number of citizens from being able to participate in the town government.	12/3/2025 3:41 PM
83	I work, and 1 career is at the Skiway....I need the \$ from both jobs. Hence, in March, most likely a Saturday would work, but it all depends on the Skiway needing me. Thank you for your effort to ask about this.	12/3/2025 3:41 PM