

Planning Board Meeting Minutes
(Joining the Select Board.)
December 6, 2021 Virtual Meeting Platform

Note: This document uses the minutes written by the Administrative Secretary for the Select Board meeting posted for the same date. These minutes keep the record of attendance and the section for the joint session with the Planning Board, as written by the Administrative Secretary.

Select Board members present: Rita Farrell/Chair, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, and Eric Stocker

Staff present: Becky Torres/Town Administrator; Linda Avis Scott/Administrative Secretary

Other Staff present: Kevin Rudden/Administrative Assessor, Leslie Bracebridge/Assessors' Clerk, Jeff Quackenbush/Board of Assessors Chair, Miriam DeFant/Conservation Commission Chair, Town Counsel Donna MacNicol, and Grace Bannasch/Town Clerk

Planning Board members present: Jeff Lacy, Michael DeChiara, Nathan Murphy, Steve Bressler, and Robert Raymond

Shutesbury Athletic Club representatives: Mark Olszewski and Jennifer Donnelly
Guests: Ashleigh Pyecroft, Jake Messier, Attorney Sam Lovejoy, Henry Geddes, Joan Hanson, Don Wakoluk, and other unidentified participants

Joint session of the Select Board and the Planning Board:

Planning Board Associate Members: In the absence of Chairperson Deacon Bonnar, Michael DeChiara calls the Planning Board to order at 6:17pm. Per DeChiara, the Planning Board unanimously approved nominations for Ashleigh Pyecroft and Jake Messier as Associate Planning Board members. Pyecroft has lived in the area for twenty years, is a high school teacher and mother, was a member of the Parent Teacher Organization when it went through the 501(c)3 process, is familiar with Roberts' Rules of Order, has become acquainted with the consequential decisions the Planning Board makes, loves democracy and offers a cool head and experience working with the public. Messier has lived in Shutesbury for about one year, previously lived in Worcester area, is an arts and non-profit entrepreneur with experience in board work, wants to get involved with the local community and chose the Associate Planning Board member as an

opportunity to serve. Pyecroft to Stocker's question: the potential solar installation project to which she would have been an abutter is no longer slated for solar development. DeChiara confirms that the Baker Road project has been removed from consideration; five potential sites remain; the two candidates are not abutters. Torres notes that Messier, 250 West Pelham Road, may be an abutter to a Pratt Corner Road site. DeChiara: with projects dispersed around town, there is a likelihood that a member or associate member of the Planning Board will be an abutter to one site. Lacy: there is a process for relieving the need to recuse oneself and associate members can be used judiciously. It is noted that Murphy has to recuse himself from all solar project applications.

- DeChiara moves and Lacy seconds a motion to appoint Ashleigh Pyecroft as an Associate Member of the Planning Board. Roll call vote: Stocker: aye, Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, DeChiara: aye, Lacy: aye, Raymond: aye, Murphy: aye, Bressler: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

- DeChiara moves and Murphy seconds a motion to appoint Jake Messier as an Associate Member of the Planning Board. Roll call vote: Stocker: aye, Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Lacy: aye, DeChiara: aye, Raymond: aye, Murphy: aye, Bressler: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

- At 6:32 pm, Murphy moves and Lacy seconds a motion to adjourn the Planning Board meeting. Roll call vote: Lacy: aye, DeChiara: aye, Murphy: aye, Bressler: aye, and Raymond: aye; the motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Murphy