

## **Planning Board Report to Town Meeting Regarding a Proposed Energy Storage Zoning Bylaw May 12, 2022**

On May 9, 2022, the Shutesbury Planning Board held a public hearing to accept testimony and make a final recommendation regarding a proposed energy storage zoning bylaw. The following people were in attendance:

- Planning Board: Deacon Bonnar, Michael DeChiara, Jeff Lacy, Nathan Murphy, Steven Bressler, Robert Raymond; Associate Member, Ashleigh Pyecroft
- Public: Paul Lyons, town moderator; Donna MacNicol, town counsel, Miriam DeFant; Conservation Commission chair.

This bylaw would establish guidance for use of energy storage systems as an accessory use to energy generation. Associated changes to the Zoning Use Table and the addition of clarifying footnotes would also occur to reflect the intent of the bylaw.

A set of common edits were suggested by the Board to clarify that some requirements established in the bylaw were intended only for commercial energy storage systems but which were not explicitly identified as such in the reviewed draft. These edits were supported by town counsel and accepted by the Board.

The Board unanimously supported recommending the energy storage zoning bylaw to Shutesbury Town Meeting.