

**Town of Lyme**  
**12175 NYS Route 12E, Chaumont, NY 13622**  
**December 10, 2025**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting 6:30 p.m.**

A regular meeting and a public hearing of the Town Board of Lyme, County of Jefferson and the State of New York was held at 12175 NYS Route 12E at 6:30 P.M., on the 10th day of December 2025.

**Regular Meeting**

**Call to Order:**

Supervisor Millington called the regular monthly meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., opening the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those presents included Supervisor Millington, Councilmember Farrell, Councilmember Gosier, Councilmember Jerome, Councilmember Bourquin, Town Clerk Ariana Henderson, Jennifer Kingsley, Bill Kleftis, Josh Rogers, Mark Zegarelli and Susan Nichols.

**Legislator William Johnson:** Mr. Johnson stated that the new airport terminal is complete. The County passed the 2026 budget, and this is the 5<sup>th</sup> year that Jefferson County has lowered the tax rate. Unfortunately for the Town, our equalization rate has gone down from 76% to 62%. This may eat up some of the savings.

Ted Smith asked if the County was going to take a position on NO solar in the County. The County is in the process of revising its unified depth exemption policy. The County has limited authority in this area; decisions are largely driven by the State.

Mr. Smith voiced his concerns regarding the Alvar ecosystem in the Town of Lyme.

Sue Nichols suggested pursuing legal action against the State and the new assessment process.

Mr. Johnson responded that property assessments are conducted at the local level and that the County does not have jurisdiction over them. He acknowledged and understands residents' concerns.

Julie inquired about the status of the STRU law. Bill explained that the law has already been passed and is expected to be fully implemented next year. Once operational, the town will receive bed and sales tax revenue. He also noted that the County has hired a contractor to gather the necessary data.

**Joshua Rogers AES Statement:** Mr. Rogers read the following Statement on behalf of AES Solar:  
*Good evening. I'd like to update the town board and the community on the Limestone Solar project. AES is aware of the concerns about the impact of the project on the local alvar community. The project is being designed to avoid all mapped alvar; we have conducted a rare plant survey, and Limestone Solar will not impact the Chaumont Barrens Preserve. The project team is currently working on the next iteration of our design, and we expect to submit the siting permit application to the office of renewable energy siting (ORES) April 2026*

We invite stakeholders to reach out to us with any questions and feedback they have. The project team can be reach via email or phone: [Limestonesolar@aes.com](mailto:Limestonesolar@aes.com) 866-757-7697

**Supervisor’s Report**

**Resolution 2025-248:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve the budget transfers listed below and October and November Supervisors Report; Councilmember Gosier seconded the motion; all were in favor; motion carried.

Proposed Adjustments		
90608.01	Medical Ins	10,804
88104.01.12	Cemetary Abandoned	8,975
88104.01.50	Cemetary CE-Cedar	8,500
13204.1	Accountant, CE	5,565
88104.01.22	Cemetary TMB	4,200
69104.01	Lyme Performing Arts Council	4,000
88104.01.35	Cemetary Mow	3,515
13401.01	Budget PS	3,453
88101.01.50	Cemetary Payroll Cedar	2,400
16204.01.03	Buildings Water Fac	1,472
35104.01	Dog Control	501
88101.01.42	Cemetary Payroll Labor	146
19104.01	Unallocated Insurance	138
88101.01.11	Cemetary Payroll Labor	(146)
2705.01	Gift and Donations	(4,000)
199047.01	Contingency	(9,098)
909	Fund Balance	(12,835)
2770.01	Unclassified	(27,590)
51302.03	- Machinery EQ	23,510
51481.03	- Serv. to Other Govt. PS	5,561
2301.03	- NYS Transportation Services	(5,561)
2665.03	- Sales of Equipment	(23,510)
51824.04	Street Lighting CE	126
909	Fund Balance	(126)
*If voter authorization in place to move garage capital reserve to the project from general, please include the following:		
9950.01	- Transfer to Capital Projects	1,001,551
A511.01	-Garage Reserve	(1,001,551)

**Highway Superintendent's Report**

**Resolution 2025-249:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve the NYS 2026/2026 Municipal Snow and Ice Supplemental Agreement No. 6 to Contract No. D014808; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Councilmember Bourquin stated that the new snow blower is here and ready to go. The dump truck is also in the shop getting finishing touches and should be in the Town's possession next month.

**Clerk's Report**

Monthly Receipts were as follows: Total Local Shares Remitted: \$6,868.85; Total State, County & Local Revenues: \$6,886.85; Total Non – Local Revenues: \$18.00.

**Resolution 2025-250:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the Town Clerk's Report for November; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Audit of the Bills (Abstracts #23 + 24)**

**Resolution 2025-251:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve Abstract #23 in the amount of \$6,309.03; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Resolution 2025-252:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve Abstract #24 in the amount of \$219,731.69; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Approval of the Minutes**

**Resolution 2025-253:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to approve the following meeting minutes; Regular Meeting November 12, 2025; seconded by Councilmember Jerome; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**New Business:**

**Zoning Amendment:**

Councilmember Gosier stated that the Heavy Industrial and Quarrying law was emailed to the Town Board and is now being reviewed by the Town Attorney. The law will probably be ready to be approved/disapproved at the January Meeting.

**CDS:**

Supervisor Millington updated the Town Board on the CD accounts.

**Year End Meeting:**

**Resolution 2025-254:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to hold the Year End Meeting December 30, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Organizational Meeting:**

**Resolution 2025-255:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to hold the Organizational Meeting January 2, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried

Supervisor Millington read the January/February Lyme Light article submitted by the Clerk.

**NYCLASS:**

Donnie explained that NYCLASS offers a higher interest rate than local banks. Jefferson County uses this institution, and he also mentioned speaking with Jane Collins, the Superintendent of Bellville, who said they use it to help offset the interest paid on bonds. Councilmember Bourquin read the following resolution:

**Municipal Cooperation Resolution**

WHEREAS, New York General Municipal Law, Article 5-G, Section 119-o (Section 119-o) empowers municipal corporations [defined in Article 5-G, Section 119-n to include school districts, boards of cooperative educational services, counties, cities, towns and villages, and districts] to enter into, amend, cancel, and terminate agreements for the performance among themselves (or one for the other) of their respective functions, powers, and duties on a cooperative or contract basis;

WHEREAS the Town of Lyme wishes to invest portions of its available investment funds in cooperation with other corporations and/or districts pursuant to the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023;

WHEREAS. The Town of Lyme wishes to satisfy the safety and liquidity needs of their funds; Now, therefore, it is hereby resolved as follows: That James Millington, Supervisor of The Town of Lyme is hereby authorized to participate in the NYCLASS program under the terms of the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Agreement Amended and Restated as of August 1, 2023.

**Resolution 2025-256:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to approve the NYCLASS Municipal Cooperation Resolution; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**BAR Re-Appointment:**

**Resolution 2025-257:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to reappoint David Bourquin to the Board of Assessment Review; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; Gosier, Farrell, Millington Jerome; YAY; Bourquin abstained; and the motion was carried

**Resolution 2025-258:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept Jennifer Kingsley's BAR resignation effective December 31, 2025; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Councilmember Bourquin stated that Cathy Ward has applied for the BAR vacancy.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Town Board Report:**

There were no comments made.

#### **Assessor Report:**

There was no report.

#### **Municipal Water Board Report:**

Councilmember Bourquin said that Kathy Dyer agreed she needs a secretary. We are also still lacking a planning board secretary.

#### **Planning Board:**

There were no questions on the submitted minutes.

**Resolution 2025-259:** Councilmember Gosier made the motion to accept the resignation of Planning Board Member Adam Brown; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Resolution 2025-260:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to advertise the following open positions; Planning Board Secretary, Planning Board Member and Water Board Secretary.; seconded by Councilmember Gosier; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

#### **Youth Commission:**

There were no questions on the submitted minutes. Supervisor Millington expressed that the Youth Commission needs coaches for sports in the spring. If anyone is interested, they should contact Scott Radley.

#### **ZEO/CEO Report:**

There were no questions on the report.

#### **ZBA Report:**

There were no questions on the submitted minutes.

#### **TMB Cemetery:**

Councilmember Gosier stated there was one cremains burial on November 29<sup>th</sup> which is late but it went smoothly.

**Cedar Grove Cemeteries:**

There was no report.

**Closing Privilege of the Floor**

*Ted Smith* suggested contacting the Jefferson County Business Administration for students who need practical experience for the open positions. Supervisor Millington said he would look into this.

*Mr. Smith* stated that there are 153 public comments posted on the ORES website regarding the Limestone Solar project. The Alvar ecosystem is truly a gem, unique, and irreplaceable. People from across the region, including Canada, have submitted comments expressing concern.

*Cathy Ward* spoke during the discussion and noted that the author of a book on the Alvar ecosystem also submitted comments to the ORES site, emphasizing the importance of protecting this rare habitat. She pointed out that some Alvar areas are not included on the DEC maps. Additional discussion focused on what environmental studies have been conducted to date. Cathy also shared that she spoke with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, who confirmed that a permit is required to run the transmission line beneath the river. At this time, no permit application has been submitted. The related case is Project #24-03044 with the New York State Department of Public Service.

*Supervisor Millington* expressed his gratitude to his wife for supporting him over the past two years. He also thanked Lynda Jackson, noting her exceptional qualifications and stating that the Town is privileged to have her. He concluded by thanking everyone for their support over the past two years.

**Online Privilege of the Floor**

There were no comments.

**Executive Session**

**Resolution 2025-261:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to enter an executive session at 7:20 p.m. to discuss Public Officers Law Item #5; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Open Meeting**

**Resolution 2025-262:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to return to open meeting at 7:35 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

**Adjournment**

**Resolution 2025-263:** Councilmember Bourquin made the motion to adjourn at 7:36 p.m.; seconded by Councilmember Farrell; all were in favor, and the motion was carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Ariana Henderson*

Ariana Henderson  
Town Clerk