



TOWN OF OLD SAYBROOK  
**Planning Commission**

*Paula S. Kay, Chairman*  
*Mark Patterson, Vice Chairman*  
*Robert D. Missel, Secretary*  
*Kathleen A. Sugland*  
*Douglas S. McCracken*  
*Meghan Joufflas, Alternate*  
*Dennis Tulimieri Jr., Alternate*  
*Michael K. Bender, Alternate*

302 Main Street  
Old Saybrook, Connecticut 06475

**oldsaybrookct.gov**

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
**Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 7:00 P.M.**  
via teleconference

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

The Chairman called the teleconference to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. **ROLL CALL**

Present: P. Kay, M. Patterson, D. McCracken, R. Missel, M. Bender (seated for K. Sugland), D. Tulimieri Jr.

Members Absent: K. Sugland, M. Joufflas

Staff Present: C. Gilman, Recording Clerk; C. Costa, Zoning Enforcement Officer; C. Fortuna, First Selectman

III. **REGULAR BUSINESS**

A. **Minutes**

**MOTION to approve the meeting minutes** for the 03/21/21 Planning Commission meeting **MADE** by R. Missel; **SECONDED** by D. McCracken; **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Missel, McCracken, Kay, Bender; **OPPOSED:** None; **ABSTAINING:** M. Patterson; **APPROVED** 4-0-1.

B. **Correspondence**

The only correspondence received was related to the agenda items.

C. **Committee, Representative & Staff Reports**

D. McCracken gave an update on the Regional Plan of Conservation and Development. There was a meeting last Wednesday to review the internal comments. The draft will be ready for public review within the next month of two.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS

**A. “Old Saybrook High School Athletic Field Lights” Application for Special Exception Review** to add four 70’ high athletic field lights. Assessor’s Map 28/Lot 4, Residence A District, Pedestrian Node.

Applicants/Agents: Tara Barros, BOE and Carl Fortuna, First Selectman, BOS ACTION:  
Consider per Town Plans; report on consistency to Zoning Commission for 5/3/2021 PH

C. Fortuna explained to the Planning Commission that they were before the commission back on 1/15/20 regarding amending the zoning regulations to remove a prohibition of an “illumination of a playing field” and to add to new special standard for athletic field lighting. At the time the Planning Commission sent a favorable referral to the Zoning Commission on the petition regarding the amendment. The Zoning Commission passed the amendment on 2/3/20. C. Fortuna is back in front of the commission tonight for a special exception review for the lights at the Old Saybrook High School athletic field.

M. Mahoney, a lightening expert from Musco Sport Lighting, gave a presentation to the commission regarding the outdoor lights proposed for the athletic field at the Old Saybrook High School. They are proposing installing four 70 foot poles with 5 individual lights at the top of each pole. There will be a wireless control system so the school administration can schedule for when the lights will be on and off. The lights are compliant with the Dark Sky Society guidelines for sports lighting.

M. Patterson expressed concern over the different levels of light on the field in regards to the drawing M. Mahoney shared. M. Mahoney explained that the human eye would not be able to see the difference. He also explained that where the lights are placed gives maximum play ability for balls that are in the air. Virtually no light will be on the neighboring property lines.

R. Missel asked what was on the F3 and F4 poles. M. Mahoney explained those are lights for the bleachers. Those lights will be on a separate circuit than the field lights. M. Bender asked if there would be lights for the track. M. Mahoney said no.

D. McCracken brought up concerns over the neighbors. C. Fortuna explained that at the February 2020 Zoning meeting the neighbors’ concerns were heard and their plan minimizes any light and/or noise for the neighbors. There were concerns of people parking on Ingham Hill Road. They are proposing building a sidewalk and/or planting trees to discourage this. Also, for larger games, there would most likely be a police presence directing traffic. Games would end before 10:30pm on weekends and 9:00pm on week days to adhere to the noise ordinance of the town.

M. Bender inquired how often the light would be on. J. Perruccio, Superintendent of Old Saybrook Public Schools, explained they would only be on during games.

D. Tulieri Jr. asked if there are going to be surge protectors for the proposed lights. D. Mahoney said yes and they are able to service the poles at 10 feet with a ladder. There is also a 24 year 100% parts and labor warranty. D. Tulieri Jr. also inquired if the field would be used for other events besides games. C. Fortuna assured that the use of the field will only be for games.

R. Missel asked what the construction costs would be for the project. C. Fortuna explained that they do not have that information yet.

**MOTION to send a favorable recommendation to the Zoning Commission for the approval of the “Old Saybrook High School Athletic Field Lights” Application for Special Exception Review** to add four 70’ athletic field lights. Assessor’s Map 28/Lot 4, Residence A District, Pedestrian Node as it is consistent with the Plan of Conservation and Development; MADE by: M. Patterson; SECONDED by: M. Bender. VOTING IN FAVOR: Patterson, Bender, Kay, Missel, McCracken; OPPOSED: None; ABSTAINING: None; **APPROVED** 5-0-0.

## V. ADJOURNMENT

M. Patterson inquired if there were any outstanding committees that members were needed for. C. Costa explained stated that there is not. M. Patterson asked C. Costa for an update on the Ingham Hill turn around that the commission previously heard. C. Costa stated she believes the project is out to bid and will update the commission.

**MOTION to adjourn** the Planning Commission public meeting of April 7, 2021 at 8:08 p.m. to the next regular meeting on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 7:00 P.M. via Zoom Meeting: Public Zoom Link: <https://zoom.us/j/95698333313?pwd=NndlRm1lenJPS0JBBeDVyaHhtMERDQT09> teleconference Dial: 929 436 2866 US, Meeting ID: 956 9833 3313; or One tap mobile: +19294362866,,96382281249#  
MADE by: D. McCracken; SECONDED by: R. Missel. VOTING IN FAVOR: McCracken, Missel, Kay, Patterson, Bender; OPPOSED: None; ABSTAINING: None; **APPROVED** 5-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Christeen Gilman