

TOWN OF WESTMORELAND PLANNING BOARD  
Minutes April 6, 2026

Planning Board Members Present: Lauren Bressett (Chair), Bruce Smith (Vice Chair), John Snowdon (Selectman) Liana Capra, Alison Fissette, Lisa Prince, and Kristen Riley

Master Plan Committee Members Present: Alan Bell, Kristen Riley, and Lisa Prince

Chair Lauren Bressett called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Administrative Business:**

Approval of Minutes - A motion was made by Alison Fissette, seconded by Liana Capra, to approve the minutes of March 2, 2026 and March 17, 2026, as printed. Motion passed 6-0. John Snowdon Abstained.

Officers were elected: Lauren was approved as Chair and Bruce was approved as Vice Chair. John Snowdon, Selectman abstained

**Master Plan Forum Preparation:**

Saturday, 9:30–11:00 AM (setup 8:30 AM)  
Town Hall - Video recording will be on the Town's website

Slides for the forum were reviewed

Housing will be a primary topic, including potential town impacts, housing needs, and options that preserve the Town's rural character, as strongly reflected in survey results. A draft Development Constraints Map (steep slopes, conservation land, and prime farmland) will support discussion; updates to conservation data are pending. Members also recommended a brief discussion of economic development. A short segment will address energy concerns, including views on expanded solar.

**Shipping/Storage Containers Ordinance Discussion**

Key concerns include growing popularity, aesthetics and deterioration. The Board agreed to define containers and classify them as structures. Units on wheels would be defined separately. It was acknowledged that this seems a more affordable storage option but concerns about appearance, maintenance, and the tendency for the areas around it to become an outside storage area were discussed. Some beginning considerations of commercial and residential parameters may be:

Commercial:

- Site plan review required
- Subject to lot coverage and setback requirements
- Not permitted in front yards
- Screening may be required when visible from roads or abutters
- Use limited to primary business; Not for storage rentals by others..
- No fixed number if standards are met.

Residential:

- 5 acres or more - Not permitted in Village Center
- Allowed only on parcels over 5 acres
- Not permitted in front yards or setbacks
- Screening may be required

At 7:26 p.m., a motion to adjourn was made by Bruce Smith and seconded by Lisa Prince. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jodi Scanlan