

**Town of Shutesbury
Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**2023 Special Town Meeting
January 19, 2023
Minutes**

The Town of Shutesbury held a Special Town Meeting on January 19 2023 at Shutesbury Elementary School, 23 West Pelham Road. This Special Town Meeting was the first indoor assembly of Shutesbury Town Meeting since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic in Spring of 2020. N95 masks and Covid-19 rapid tests were provided to the public. Though the weather was less than ideal, 133 Shutesbury residents qualified to vote in elections and town affairs braved the snowy night to conduct the town's business.

The Special Town Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm. The Moderator opened the Meeting by explaining the accommodations that had been made to include those with health concerns in the proceedings. The Town Administrator provided an update on the progress made to repair and replace the elementary school roof.

Article 1. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to purchase, take by eminent domain or otherwise acquire from the Kestrel Land Trust, Inc. 0 Pelham Hill Road, Shutesbury, Franklin County, MA to be held by the Conservation Commission for conservation and passive recreation purposes and further subject to a Conservation Restriction to the Kestrel Land Trust, Inc., and to appropriate \$265,000 for said acquisition, said funds for this acquisition to be funded by an estimated \$197,716.13 from the federally funded Forest Legacy Program through the Commonwealth of Mass, Department of Conservation & Recreation; \$45,000 from the Community Preservation Fund (already approved and appropriated at the 2022 annual town meeting, Article 19); \$20,000 from the Shutesbury Conservation Commission Reserve Fund; and, \$2,283.87 from private donations to the Kestrel Land Trust, Inc.

Article 1 passed by a clear 2/3 majority.

Article 2. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to authorize the Select Board to convey for no consideration a Conservation Restriction to the Kestrel Land Trust, Inc. for the purpose of restricting for conservation and passive recreation purposes the, to be acquired property, located at 0 Pelham Hill Road, Shutesbury, Franklin County, MA.

Article 2 passed by a clear 2/3 majority.

The Moderator moved Article 4 up for consideration, to allow more time for printing additional informational handouts relevant to Article 3.

Article 4. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from free cash \$136,948 (\$42,000 for Tighe and Bond and \$94,948 for Direct Costs, LAB and Point of Entry Treatment System

(POETS) for funding Tighe and Bond’s proposal to address PFAS contamination in Shutesbury with the source point of the fire station through 6/30/23.

Article 4 passed by clear majority.

Article 3. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to strike section 8.10 of the Town of Shutesbury Zoning Bylaw and replace it with the following new section 8.10, to amend section 3.1-1 Use Table of the Zoning Bylaw by adding the following language, and to amend section 13.2 Definitions in the Zoning Bylaw by adding the following language.

3.1-1 ADD NEW USE under “ENERGY AND UTILITY”:

Use	RR	FC	TC	LW	Section Reference
Energy Storage System” (ESS) as a principal use	N	N	N	N	8.10

13.2 AMEND DEFINITIONS TO INCLUDE ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS (ESS)

Energy Storage System (ESS) shall mean any mechanical, thermal, electrical, chemical, electrochemical or other device that is operated in conjunction with an Energy and Utility Use facility (as listed in the Use Table) to store energy for use by the utility grid or a backup system.

Article 3 passed by clear 2/3 majority.

Article 5. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to transfer from free cash \$18,602.50 for VADAR Financial Software for the Town Collector.

Article 5 passed unanimously.

A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to dissolve the Special Town Meeting at 7:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Grace Bannasch
Shutesbury Town Clerk

A True Copy Attest: _____