

Shutesbury Select Board Meeting Minutes
June 12, 2020 Virtual Meeting

Select Board members present: Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil/Chair and Elaine Puleo

Select Board member absent: April Stein

Staff present: Becky Torres/Town Administrator; Linda Avis Scott/Administrative Secretary

Guest: Catherine Hilton/Board of Health

Makepeace-O'Neil calls the meeting to order 5:00pm.

Discussion Topic:

1. Mosquito Control Article/Annual Town Meeting Warrant: Torres: the updated text for the article was provided by Catherine Hilton/Board of Health. Puleo moves and Makepeace-O'Neil seconds a motion to add Article #22 "To see if the Town will vote to become a member in the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District" to the warrant. For Puleo, Hilton verifies that joining the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) is for "the purpose of monitoring, surveillance and other applicable sections of said law". Hilton reminds those present of the Board of Health's efforts to provide education about the purpose of joining the PVMCD which only provides monitoring and surveillance including the testing of mosquitos; the District is not offering any other services this year. Hilton notes that Governor Baker is in favor of mosquito control districts although, because a lot of towns are not in districts, is also willing to order spraying. Hilton: the Board of Health's goal is disruption of mosquito breeding and habitat; the District's only authority, given by the Board of Health, is to trap and test mosquitos; all control is local. Hilton: along with other towns, Shutesbury petitioned to have testing done by PVMCD even though Shutesbury has yet to become a member; if suspect mosquito species are found in the traps, they will be sent for testing. For Makepeace-O'Neil, Hilton confirms the mosquitos are tested for Zika, West Nile, and EEE. Puleo: per the Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project Services document (posted on the Board of Health webpage) if there is significant risk, the MMCPSP along with the Department of Public Health, may determine there is a need for spraying. Hilton: testing of suspect species and localized interruption of habitat and breeding will allow the Board of Health to stay ahead of the need for spraying. Roll call vote: Puleo: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil: aye; the motion carries.

Unanticipated Topic:

Annual Town Meeting: Per Hilton, the Board of Health has decided not to take temperatures prior to participants entering annual town meeting. Torres is working on the final warrant text; the joint Select Board and Police Chief letter to the community has been posted to the Town website and the Town Announce, to be posted 6.12.20, will include link to the letter on Town website. Makepeace-O'Neil: this will enhance traffic to the Town website when the budget and warrant are posted.

At 5:17pm, Puleo moves and Makepeace-O'Neil seconds a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Puleo: aye and Makepeace-O'Neil: aye; the motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Avis Scott
Administrative Secretary