

Shutesbury Select Board Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2022 Behind Town Hall Outdoors

Select Board members present: Rita Farrell/Chair, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, and Eric Stocker
Staff present: Becky Torres/Town Administrator; Linda Avis Scott/Administrative Secretary
Other Staff present: Paul Lyons/Town Moderator; George Arvanitis/Finance Committee

Farrell calls the meeting to order at 8:21am.

Discussion Topic:

1. Reappoint Town Accountant After Retirement: Torres explains that Gail Weiss/Town Accountant is retiring from her position with the Town of Orange; per the Franklin Regional Retirement System, Weiss needed to retire from her Shutesbury position as well. Torres continues: Weiss would like to continue as Shutesbury's accountant and has applied for the position that was posted for the required 24 hours; this is a formality caused by her retirement from Orange.
 - Makepeace-O'Neil moves and Stocker seconds a motion to rehire Gail Weiss as the Town Accountant. Roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

Unanticipated Topic:

1. Article #22: Torres explains the Planning Board met 5.18.22 and decided to recommend Article #22 passed over; the resignation of two Zoning Board of Appeals members, Chuck DiMare and Herb Gilmore, effective 7.2.22 will leave one remaining member, Jeff Lacy; for the time being, the Planning Board recommends the ZBA remain a three member (and two alternate) board. Per Torres, Town Counsel Donna MacNicol does not agree with Lacy's perspective that it will be more difficult to train four new members rather than two; as the sponsor of Article #22, it is the Select Board's decision whether to pass over or vote on the article; if the article goes to a vote and does not pass, it cannot come back before town meeting for two years; Planning Board member Michael DeChiara will be present to speak to the recommendation to leave ZBA membership at three. Farrell and Makepeace-O'Neil note that increasing the membership to five at this time merits further discussion. Paul Lyons/Town Moderator: the petitioner is willing to withdraw Article #47; the language of that article is not legal; if the Select Board decides to pass on Article #22, a motion is needed.
 - Makepeace-O'Neil moves and Stocker seconds a motion to pass over Article #22. Roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

At 8:33pm, Stocker moves and Makepeace-O'Neil seconds a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Makepeace-O'Neil: aye, Stocker: aye, and Farrell: aye; the motion carries.

Document Used at the Meeting:

1. 5.18.22 Shutesbury Planning Board Report

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Avis Scott
Administrative Secretary