

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Shutesbury**

**Special Town Meeting Minutes
July 31, 2018**

At a legal meeting of the inhabitants of the Town of Shutesbury qualified to vote in town affairs, held in the Shutesbury Elementary School at 23 West Pelham Road the thirty-first day of July 2018 in the presence of a quorum, the following business was conducted.

Moderator Penelope Kim opened the meeting at 7:05 PM. She asked for a moment of silence to honor Mary Dilhmann, a long-time resident who recently passed away.

Ellen McKay, the Shutesbury tax collector made an announcement that third quarter taxes are due on August 1, 2018.

The Chair of the Select Board, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, and Walter Tibbetts, the Shutesbury Fire Chief, announced that the salary contract for the Fire Chief position had been signed earlier in the day.

Moderator Kim introduced the public officials, identified the emergency exits, read a Civic Invocation and identified Town Meeting Time as the procedural guide for the meeting.

Article 1. Submitted as a Citizen's Petition. A motion was made that the Town of Shutesbury vote to transfer from available funds to meet the salary of \$65,000 for the Shutesbury Fire Chief/Emergency Management Director/ EMT Director/E-911 Coordinator/Forest Warden/Cemetery Commissioner, Walter Tibbetts, for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. The motion was seconded.

An **amendment** was made to raise and appropriate \$8,206 for the Shutesbury Fire Chief Salary line for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2018. The amendment was seconded.

George Arvanitis, the co-Chair of the Finance committee explained that in May, the Annual Town meeting approved a salary for the Fired Chief. By passing tonight's article, the town will pay a fire chief's salary total of \$65,118 for FY 2019. The Finance committee recommended this increase be raised and appropriated, come from taxes, because salaries are an on-going expense. The tax rate for the year has not been set yet and this increase will be reflected in the tax rate for FY 2019.

After some questions, confirmation of the funding source, affirmation that this would raise taxes and an endorsement from the floor, **the amendment passed unanimously.**

Michael DeChiara spoke about the salary process so far: the 2.5 % increase approved and passed for other town employees and working in good faith on salary issues and negotiations. Another two citizens confirmed that this amended article would raise taxes.

Moderator Kim called for a secret paper ballot vote for Article 1 as amended.
The article passed with 138 YES votes, 20 NO votes and 3 blank votes cast.

Article 2. A motion was made and seconded that the Town vote to amend the general by-laws of the Town of Shutesbury by adding a new section to establish and authorize revolving funds for use by certain town departments, boards, committees, agencies or officers under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 44, sect. 53 E1/2. The motion was seconded.

This article is to comply with the Municipal Modernization act which now requires the departmental revolving funds to be a general town by-law. Town meeting members had the full warrant article and the corrected chart below to reference.

Revolving fund	Authorized to spend fund	Revenue source	Use of fund	FY2018 spending limit	Surplus column cap
Dog license and control	Town Clerk and Dog Officer	Licenses, fines and donations	Supplies and animal care	\$1,000	\$1,000
Recycling	Recycling Coordinator and Town Administrator	MIRF, grants, bulky waste garbage bags, recycling containers	Expenses, stipend and equipment	\$25,000	\$6,000
Fire Inspections	Selectboard	Fire inspection fees	Pay Fire Inspector or assistant	\$3,000	\$1,000
Electrical Inspections	Selectboard	Electrical Inspection fees	Pay Electrical Inspector or assistant	\$4,000	\$1,000
Plumbing Inspection	Selectboard	Plumbing Inspection fees	Pay Plumbing Inspector	\$5,000	\$1,000
Swimming Exercise	Selectboard	Swimming Exercise fees	Pay instructor	\$3,000	\$1,000
Library	Library Board of Trustees	Grants, fines, sales, dog Licenses, bequests	Materials & Expenses	\$10,000	\$7,500
Conservation	Commissioners	Local Wetland Protection Permit Fees	Education, outreach, and maintenance of Property	\$3,000	\$3,000
Council on Aging	COA	Foot clinic, programs,	Clinic, entertainment classes	\$3,000	\$3,000
Recreation	Recreation Committee	Reimbursements for Recreation Expenses	Recreation Expenses	\$5000	\$5000
SRECS Solar Renewable Energy Certificates	Selectboard	Contract payments for Solar PV Production	Renewable & Conservation Energy Projects	\$30,000	\$40,000
Total Spending				\$92,000	\$69,500

The article passed unanimously.

The meeting was dissolved at 7:40 PM

Respectfully submitted by

Susie Mosher
Shutesbury Town Clerk