

Town of Shirley

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



7 KEADY WAY – SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS - 01464-2812
Patrice Garvin, Town Administrator

TEL: (978) 425-2600, x121
Fax: (978) 425-2602

June, 2014

Dear Residents of Shirley,

Town Meeting successfully passed its Fiscal Year 2015 Budget; approved Special Legislation making the Town Collector an appointed position, rather than an elected position; adopted a five year capital plan; approved the funding of a new truck for the DPW; and put away some monies into the Capital Stabilization Fund.

Annual Town Meeting has concluded after a two-night session. The presentation of the budget was new this year and was well received by residents. Kinks have been identified and will be addressed in next year's presentation. I want to commend the new Moderator, Eric Cappucci on doing an outstanding job.

As we move forward another Town Meeting is fast approaching. At the Special Town Meeting, tentatively scheduled for November 10th, a plan to distribute Free Cash will be explained. The Town is in the process of putting Free Cash policy in place that outlines the Town's Free Cash spending going forward. The Finance Team is working on developing Financial Policies for the Town that will be adopted in conjunction with the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee.

We are starting a process for Employee Performance Evaluations for non –union employees. This will be tied to a percentage increase, replacing automatic steps that have existed in the past. We are working to develop an evaluation that will tie to a policy and process to make it fair for all of the employees. Training will be given to Department Heads, as well as members of Boards/Committees who will participate in the evaluation. This will be a new process for employees but one I am certain will work well.

We are also about to begin an office reorganization in the Town Hall. As people who frequent the building know there is little activity on the first floor. Now that Town Meeting has passed the Collector Article it is time to move forward and consolidate the Treasurer and Collector offices. These offices will merge and be placed into the offices across the hall from what is now the Collectors office. We are also starting other efforts to make the first floor a much more active and lively place. The Sewer Department and the Recreation Department will move upstairs, where the Treasurer and Accountant currently are located. I ask for patience from everyone during this transition.

Finally, the Board will begin its summer schedule in July. The Board will be meeting every other week, or as needed during the summer months. I hope everyone has a great summer and that the weather cooperates.

Sincerely,

Patrice Garvin,
Shirley Town Administrator