

Town of Shirley

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



7 KEADY WAY – SHIRLEY, MASSACHUSETTS - 01464-2812

Robert E. Prescott, Jr., Chair

David N. Swain, Vice Chair

Kendra J. Dumont, Clerk

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

November 9th, 2015

7:00 pm

TOWN OFFICES

The Board of Selectmen convened its meeting on Monday, November 9, 2015 at the Town Offices, Meeting Rooms A & B, Chairman Robert E. Prescott, Jr. presiding, with Selectmen Kendra J. Dumont, David N. Swain, Town Administrator Patrice Garvin in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Prescott called to Order the Board of Selectmen's Meeting at 6:30 pm.

2016 Tax Rate Classification Hearing with Board of Assessors – 6:45p.m.

Selectmen Swain *Moved to enter into a public hearing for the 2016 Tax Rate Classification Hearing at 6:45p.m.*

The Board of Assessors began by stating the average property income has risen to about \$250,000 with the Town.

Selectman Swain stated that there would be no benefit of switching to a split tax rate. Swain also suggested that the Town stay with the single tax rate.

Selectman Swain *Motioned to close the public hearing for the 2016 Tax Rate Classification Hearing, Chairman Prescott Seconded. Robert E. Prescott vote Aye, David N. Swain vote Aye, and Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye.*

Selectmen Swain *Moved to adopt a minimum residential tax factor of one for fiscal year 2016 and maintain a single tax rate. Selectman Dumont Seconded. David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye and Robert E. Prescott, Jr. vote Aye.*

Town Administrator Garvin stated that last week she met with Bobby Jo about doing the recap, and they found that they had a little bit of extra money in the excess levy, and they discussed what to do with that excess levy capacity. Garvin stated that through their discussions they found that if they use the \$138,000 vs. not using the excess tax levy money, the excess tax rate seemed to go down by not raising and appropriating it. Garvin also stated that the current tax rate is \$17.31 per \$1,000, and if the \$138,000 is spent at town

meeting, the tax rate is estimated to be about \$16.74 per \$1,000, if the \$138,000 is not spent at town meeting the tax rate is estimated to be about \$16.51 per \$1,000. Garvin also states that by not spending this money at town meeting, it is giving it back to the residents rather than spending it on stabilization, which they have discussed doing with the Free Cash. Garvin states that by doing this it will give the tax payers relief. Garvin also states that doing this will not affect the Tax Bill. Garvin goes on to state that when she sat down with the accountant they found that they had budgeted the revenues too low. Garvin also states that the 2016 fiscal year is already balanced, so this extra money will either be going back to the residents, or into savings. Garvin adds that in the following year the town will be able to capture some of the solar money.

Selectman Dumont states that if the money is spent at town meeting and added to the budget, in the following year's budget it will be an extra expense and in turn could increase the tax rate in that year.

The Board of Assessors, Chairman Prescott, Selectman Dumont, and Town Administrator Garvin all agree that the excess levy money is only for this year. Garvin states that it is a question of whether the money will be there next year because it has not been decided if the levy will be taxed in the coming year.

Garvin states that if they are going to give residents a tax break, this would be the year to do it, as they will be asking for an override as well for fiscal year 2017.

Garvin states that she is meeting with the Budget Committee and Finance Committee tomorrow, November 10th. Garvin also states that next year is a reevaluation year, which works in their favor.

Chairman Prescott states that they will put it out on the floor and see what happens.

Selectman Swain states that if they don't spend it this year, the money will still be there next year, but the taxes would be slightly less this year.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

The Town Administrator gave her weekly report.

Garvin states she is pleased to report that Nadia Madden, the Conservation Agent, recently completed the Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions Fundamentals for Conservation Commissioner Course.

Garvin state that she received confirmation that the Town's application for the Community Compact is being reviewed. Garvin also stated that the Division of Local Services is taking longer than usual with their response.

Garvin stated that she and Bryan Dumont received an award on behalf of the Town of Shirley from National Grid on Wednesday November 4th. This award was given to four other communities as well for their outstanding performance in the MassSaves Program. Along with this recognition the Town will receive an outside water bottle filling station to be placed in the community. Garvin stated that she will give the Board more information on this water filling station closer to the spring.

Garvin stated that the Flex Spending is a benefit offered to the employees in Town, last year the Board agreed to fund the \$60 administrative fee for each employee. The Town is looking to roll out that program again and needs the Board to approve its funding. Currently three employees are enrolled in the Flex plan.

Selectman Swain stated that the program worked well in the previous year and that he had no issues with it.

Garvin stated that she will need a motion because it will be taken out the employee benefits.

Selectman Swain *Motions that Board agree to fund the \$60 administrative fee for each employee enrolled in the Flex Plan Spending account. Chairman Prescott and Selectman Dumont Second the Motion. Robert E. Prescott vote Aye, David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye.*

Garvin states that she is doing a monthly show called *Budget Sense*, and this past week she had the Chairman of the Finance Committee on the show talking about Free Cash for about 15 minutes. The show will be running on Spaco.

Garvin states that the Police Department is doing a fundraiser this month called "No Shave November". All of the proceeds go to the Friendship Fund.

Selectman Dumont states that the officers have the permission of the Chief to not shave for the month.

Town Administrator Garvin concluded her report.

TREASURY WARRANTS

Selectman Swain *Motioned to accept the following Treasury Warrants as presented. Selectman Dumont Seconded. David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye and Robert E. Prescott, Jr. vote Aye.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Selectman Swain *Moves to accept the Minutes of August 10, 2015. Selectman Dumont Seconded. Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, David N. Swain vote Aye and Robert E. Prescott, Jr. vote Aye.*

Selectman Swain *Moves to accept the Minutes of September 14, 2015. Selectman Dumont Seconded. Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, David N. Swain vote Aye and Robert E. Prescott, Jr. vote Aye.*

OLD BUSINESS

1. Energy Committee Update
2. Budget Coordinating Committee Update

Town Administrator Garvin states the Budget Coordinating Committee is meeting tomorrow morning, November 10th, and she will present them with the information that she presented at this meeting about the excess levy capacity.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Designation of Special Municipal Employee/Appointment of Outreach Worker—Joanne Boudreau

Selectman Swain *Motions to designate the Council on Aging position for Outreach Worker as a Special Municipal Employee. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Movement. David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

Selectman Swain *Motions to appoint Joanne Boudreau to the position of Outreach Worker term to expire June 30, 2016. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Motion. David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

Garvin notes that this position is grant funded.

4. Special Town Meeting Motions

Town Administrator Garvin states council edits and the final motions for the Special Town Meeting (see attached)

5. Driveway Permits: 13 Pumpkin Brook

Chairman Prescott states that they have an application to construct a black top driveway or access way for 13 Pumpkin Brook

Selectman Swain states that he has no issue.

Selectman Swain *Motions to authorize the resurfacing of an existing driveway for 13 Pumpkin Brook as presented with attached orders and conditions. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Motion. David N. Swain vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye. Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

6. Road Cut Permits:

a. 24 Little Turnpike Road

Selectman Swain *Motions to authorize a new water service road cut permit for 24 Little Turnpike Road with the attached orders and conditions. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Motion. David N. Swain vote Aye. Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

b. 23 Patterson Road

Selectman Swain *Motions to authorize a new water service road cut permit for 23 Patterson Road with the attached orders and conditions. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Motion. David N. Swain vote Aye. Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

7. Trench Permit

Selectman Swain *Motions to authorize a trench permit for 23 Patterson Road with the attached orders and conditions. Selectman Dumont Seconds the Motion. David N. Swain vote Aye. Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, Robert E. Prescott vote Aye.*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Veteran's Day Ceremony is November 11th, at 11 a.m. at Whitely Park.
2. Next scheduled meeting is on Monday November 16th at 7 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

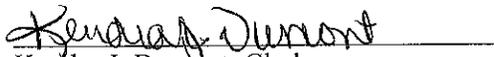
With no further business to discuss, *Motion and Seconded to adjourn at 7:09 p.m., Robert E. Prescott vote Aye, Kendra J. Dumont vote Aye, and David N. Swain, vote Aye.*

Respectfully submitted,
Nathan Boudreau, Executive Assistant

Date Accepted: Jan 11, 2016


Robert E. Prescott Jr., Chair


David N. Swain, Vice Chair


Kendra J. Dumont, Clerk

Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.