

TA Report 4.30.10

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING IS MAY 1, 2010 starting at 9:00AM

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING IS MAY 1, 2010 starting at 8:30AM

SHUTESBURY/FARMERS MARKET will begin May 22, 2010. The hours are, **Saturday, 8:30am until noon.**

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH AVAILABLE AT ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Come early for muffins, donuts, bagels, scones, coffee and tea. Friends of the Library will continue to nourish us with a lunch bar of veggie chili, turkey chili, sandwiches, and baked goods. They will also be selling soda and seltzer.

LIBRARY FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (LFNAC) Takes their building project to Annual Town Meeting for approval (not a request for funding) and authorization to apply for Mass. Board of Library Commissioner's (MBLC) Building Grant. The architects and committee will present the work they have done. It is all based on the library program available at the town website. They have hammered out a very effective floor plan that creates a wonderful library to carry the town into the next century. The library will be a media center for print (books, newspapers, and magazines), video, computers with internet service as well as house a community room, a public gathering space for speakers, slide shows, yoga, teas and a gallery for art shows. This library will be many times larger but designed to be staffed at current levels. Come to Town Meeting to learn, hear and see more about this potential building project.

SOLAR PANELS- Our 5 kilowatt pole mounted system has now turned to a 10 kilowatt pole mounted system behind town hall. The pre-construction meeting was delayed by Waterline Alternative Energy and rescheduled to Friday May 7. We are eager to get this moving. The key to this project now is the coordination between the 2 firms to make sure the project has matching components and design. Our highway department will do the trenching. The panels will span between 48' and 60' across east to west. The solar gain is estimated to supply 38% of the town hall's electrical needs.

FIRE STATION GASOLINE LEAK – DEP has asked us to move ahead with OTO to do borings. They are working on the bid for digging up the fire station parking lot and disposing of contaminated soil, an expected 1100 tons. I put up the dig safe signs a marked the road. The end of next week, weather permitting OTO will do some borings.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING will be preceded by a short special town meeting to approve a bill of prior years. The bill is to pay for our retirement obligation that should have been billed in FY09 but was not. At 9am we will entertain 4 zoning by law articles. The first 2 will increase the town's ability to use the parcels they have by allowing for multiple use of property and second by allowing use of a property even if it lacks sufficient frontage. All other dimensional requirements must be met.

The town will be asked to approve a capital budget of \$37,500 for maintenance items and a the library building fund, move \$30,000 into stabilization, entertain a request for a \$60,000 one ton truck for the highway dept not recommended by capital plan, Selectboard or Finance Committee, vote to allocate 10% of CPA money into appropriate categories and \$1750 for expenses. We will go through all the traditional money articles authorizing revolving funds, Treasurer authorization, salary compensation, State Highway reimbursement program, our Amherst/Pelham regionalization assessment agreement, allow the Selectboard to accept grant

funding and finally, review and vote to approve the Shutesbury annual budget. And lastly we will review and vote on a winter use of Lake Wyola bylaw.

The weather will be beautiful tomorrow. I hope you can take some time out of your day to be part of your town government. Each one of you is a decision maker here. Come, listen, share your thoughts, learn about what is going on, our many hard working committees, our tremendous schools, our little library with a circulation 10 times its size. There will be opportunities to pick up trash bags, buy a Shutesbury hat, t-shirt, banana and cranberry muffins, coffee or chili for lunch. A chance to buy locally, fundraise for your town and a chat with some of the best folks around.

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