

**2026 Special Town Meeting Warrant
Town of Shutesbury
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
October 17, 2026**



To one of the Constables of the Town of Shutesbury in the County of Franklin,

Greetings:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the inhabitants of said town, qualified to vote in elections and town affairs, to meet at **9:00** a.m. on Saturday the **Seventeenth** day of October, at the Shutesbury Elementary School, at 23 West Pelham Rd. in said Shutesbury, in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-Six, then and there to act on the following articles:

Article 1. Prior Year Bills

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to transfer from Stabilization to pay bills from prior years, first, an FY25 invoice, #2357FY25-001, from the Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District, 7/1/2024-6/30/2025, the sum of \$5,000.00, for a Pioneer Valley Mosquito Control District (PVMCD) Annual Membership Fee, and secondly, a debt collection bill from McCarthy, Burgess and Wolff, for a bill from Alert 360, 7/28/25, the sum of \$238.40, for alarm monitoring and late fees; or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsor: Selectboard) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0

Requires 9/10^{ths} Majority Vote

Article 2. Acceptance of M.G.L c. 64G, Section 3D (a). Community Impact Fee (1)

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to accept the provisions of M.G. L. Chapter 64G sec. 3D (a), which would allow the town to impose a three (3) percent community impact fee applying to transfers of occupancy for “Professionally-managed units” (one of two or more short-term rental units in same city/town operated by the same operator (owner) and not located within a single- or two- or three-family dwelling that includes the operator’s primary residence); or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsor: Selectboard) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0

Requires Majority Vote

Article 3. Acceptance of M.G.L c. 64G, Section 3D (b). Community Impact Fee (2)

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to accept the provisions of M.G. L. Chapter 64G sec. 3D (b), to impose a three (3) percent community impact fee applying to transfers of occupancy for short-term rental units located in a two- or three-family dwelling that includes the operator’s primary residence; or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsor: Selectboard) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0

Requires Majority Vote

Article 4. Acceptance of M.G.L c 60, Section 3C and Establishment of Related Funds

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 3C, authorizing the establishment of a voluntary municipal scholarship or educational fund through donations made on municipal tax bills and/or motor vehicle excise tax bills, or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsor: Selectboard)

Requires Majority Vote

Article 5. Acceptance of M.G.L c 60, Sections 3D and Establishment of Related Funds

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to accept the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 3D, authorizing the establishment of a voluntary aid to the elderly and disabled taxation fund through donations made on municipal tax bills and/or motor vehicle excise tax bills, each as approved by the Commissioner of Revenue, or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsors: Selectboard)

Requires Majority Vote

Article 6. Local Adoption of Massachusetts General Law Provisions: Establishment of a Special Education Reserve Fund

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 13E of the Massachusetts General Laws to establish a Special Education Reserve Fund to be utilized in the upcoming fiscal years, for the general purposes of funding, without further appropriation, unanticipated or unbudgeted costs of special education, out-of-district tuition or transportation, as provided for by law; such funds to be distributed after a majority vote of the School Committee and a majority vote of the Select Board only; to raise and appropriate, and/or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the Special Education Reserve Fund, and provided that the balance in such Reserve Fund shall not exceed two (2) per cent of the annual net school spending amount established for the Shutesbury Elementary School; and the Treasurer may invest the monies in the manner authorized in Chapter 44, Section 44 of the Massachusetts General Laws, and any interest earned thereon shall be credited to and become part of the fund; or take any other action related thereto.

(Sponsor: School Committee) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0

Requires Majority Vote

Article 7. Closing West Quabbin Woodlands Conservation Area Purchase/Development CPA grant

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to return the remaining \$10,000 in the West Quabbin Woodlands Conservation Area CPA grant ("Purchase/Develop Pelham Rd Lot R-15," account 210-171-5800-0000) to the Town's Open Space/Recreation CPA fund or take any other action relative thereto.

(Sponsor: Community Preservation Committee) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0

Requires Majority Vote

Article 8: Accept Bequest of Estate Property at 41 Cooleyville Rd. Shutesbury, MA.

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to authorize the Select Board to accept by bequeath gift deed, purchase, take by eminent domain, or otherwise acquire, a parcel of land, with buildings thereon and contents within, situated at 41 Cooleyville Road, Shutesbury, MA 01072, now or formerly owned by David Ulen a/k/a David R. Ulen, Trustee of the David Rogers Ulen Revocable Trust of 1165 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01002, or his agents, assigns, heirs or devisees, for municipal purposes, said land more particularly shown on the Shutesbury Assessors maps as Parcel O-52, and is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a stake and stones on the southerly side of the highway leading from Shutesbury Center to New Salem, it being the northwest corner of land deeded by Cerinthia E. Briggs to Hermann Dihlmann; thence running southerly by land now or formerly of said Dihlmann on the line of the stone wall six (6) rods

and twenty-two (22) links to a stake and stones near the easterly end of a stone wall; thence westerly by land now or formerly of said Dihlmann on the line of said wall thirteen (13) rods and one (1) link to a stone post at the intersection of two stone walls; thence northerly by land now or formerly of Chester N. Tupper on the line of a stone wall seven (7) rods and ten (10) links to a stone post on the southerly side of the above-mentioned highway; thence easterly by the southerly side of said highway thirteen (13) rods and two (2) links to the first mentioned corner and the point of beginning. Containing ninety-three (93) square rods, more or less, together with the buildings thereon.

BEING the same premises conveyed to David Ulen a/k/a David R. Ulen, Trustee of the David Rogers Ulen Revocable Trust by deed of David R. Ulen, dated March 13, 2026, and recorded in the Franklin County Registry of Deeds in Book 8614, Page 56.

or take any other vote or votes in relation thereto.

**(Sponsor: Select Board) Finance Committee Recommends, 7-0
Requires Majority Vote**

Article 9: Amendment to Personnel Bylaw-Removal of Holidays Section

To see if the Town of Shutesbury will vote to amend the Town of Shutesbury Personnel Bylaw, Section 7, "Leaves and Holidays," by deleting Section 7.3 "Holidays" in its entirety and replacing it with text referencing the Personnel Handbook, or take any action related thereto:

Section 7.3 Holidays

Delete:

~7.3.1 The recognized holidays shall be New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Any holiday falling on a Saturday will be celebrated on the preceding Friday, and any holiday falling on a Sunday will be celebrated on the following Monday. All EEFBs are entitled to be paid for these holidays. Should an employee be required to work on a holiday, he/she shall receive twice the basic rate of pay for hours worked on the actual holiday. This provision does not apply to those employees who are regularly scheduled to work on Sundays or holidays. An employee who does not normally work on a day a holiday is observed may take the next work day as that holiday.~7.3.2 On an annual basis, the Selectboard may decide to grant extra time around Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day and New Year's Day.~

Insert:

7.3 Holidays

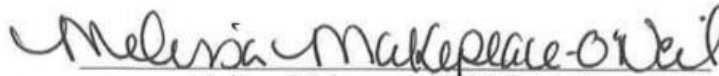
Recognized holidays, paid holiday eligibility, and holiday compensation rules for eligible employees shall be determined and governed as set forth in the Town of Shutesbury Personnel Handbook.

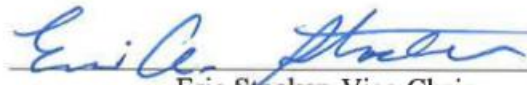
Explanation / Background Under Section 4.1.7 and Section 4.11 of the Personnel Bylaw, the Personnel Board maintains an employee handbook describing terms and conditions of employment. This amendment removes the specific listing and operational rules for holidays from the Town Bylaw itself and delegates holiday administrative details to the Personnel Handbook, allowing future holiday schedule updates to be managed administratively without requiring a formal Town Bylaw amendment.

**(Sponsor: Personnel Board)
Requires Majority Vote**

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, at the time and place of the meeting. Given under our hands this 29th day of September, Two Thousand and Twenty-Six.

Shutesbury Selectboard


Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, Chair


Eric Stocker, Vice-Chair

James Walton, Board Member

I, the undersigned Constable for the Town of Shutesbury, certify that I posted attested copies of the Warrant for the above mentioned meeting at the Locks Pond Bulletin Board, the Shutesbury Post Office, and the Town Hall in said town seven (7) days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Constable _____

Date _____

(TOWN SEAL)

