

RECEIVED 5/18/22 1pm B.S. Lebat Administrative Assistant

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Berkshire,

Greeting:

To either of the Constables of the Town of Becket,

In the name of the Commonwealth, you are hereby required to notify and warn the eligible voters of the Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District (SFRMD) who are qualified to vote in District affairs to meet in the BECKET TOWN HALL, 557 Main Street, on the 11<sup>th</sup> Day of June, 2022, at 1:00 o'clock P.M., for the following purposes:

## Annual District Meeting

The moderator who presided at the previous Annual District meeting or in the absence of that moderator the District Clerk will preside, call the meeting to order and determine if a quorum of eligible voters is present in person and/or by proxy. If the District Clerk determines that a quorum consisting of twenty (20) eligible voters of the District in attendance is present, this Annual District Meeting of the Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District shall proceed to:

**Article 1:** To see if the District proprietors will vote to elect a moderator, who should, but not need be, a proprietor of the District. Said newly elected moderator shall again certify to the Annual District meeting that a quorum, consisting of twenty (20) eligible voters of the District in person and/or by proxy is in attendance.

**Prudential Committee: Recommend**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 2:** The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for District clerk to see if the District proprietors will vote by secret ballot to elect a clerk who must be a resident of the District entitled to vote at District meetings. The term of service shall be two (2) years from the date of this Annual District Meeting until the election and qualification of the clerk's successor.

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 3:** The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for District treasurer to see if the District proprietors will vote by secret ballot to elect a treasurer who must be a resident of the District entitled to vote at district meetings. The term of service shall be two (2) years from the date of this Annual District Meeting until the election and qualification of the treasurer's successor. The treasurer must be bonded within ten (10) days of the assumption of office or the office will be declared vacant.

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 4:** The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for individuals to fill one (1) **regular resident** prudential committee position. The moderator will then have the District proprietors vote to elect by secret ballot from among those nominated: one (1) regular resident member, who shall be a resident of the District entitled to vote at District meetings, and none of whom may be the District clerk or treasurer. The term of service of the elected regular resident member shall be two (2) years from the date of this Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors.

**Incumbent**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 5:** The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for individuals to fill one (1) **regular resident alternate** prudential committee position. The moderator will then have the District proprietors vote to elect by secret ballot from among those nominated: one (1) regular non-resident alternate member, who shall be a non-resident assessed owner of real estate within the District. The term of service of the elected regular non-resident alternate member shall be two (2) years from the date of this Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors.

**Incumbent**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 6:** The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for individuals to fill one (1) **regular non-resident** prudential committee position. The moderator will then have the District proprietors vote to elect by secret ballot from among those nominated: one (1) regular non-resident member, who shall be a non-resident assessed owner of real estate within the District. The term of service of the elected regular non-resident member shall be two (2) years from the date of this Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors.

**Incumbent**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 7:** To see if the District voters will vote to transfer funding for the following FY2021 accounts at the listed amount for the balance of the fiscal year:

District Expenses	new total \$5,384.45
	and to fund this by transferring \$1119.45 from Outsourced Services
Operating Expenses	new total \$17,504.90

**SHERWOOD FOREST ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT - PROJECTED OPERATING BUDGET - FY 2023**

LINE	7/01/2022 - 6/30/2023	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	NOTES
ITEM	CATEGORY	2019 APPROVED	2020 APPROVED	2021 APPROVED	2022 APPROVED	2022 PROJECTED -3%	2022 PROJECTED -3%	2022 PROJECTED -3%	2022 PROJECTED -3%	NOTES
1	OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,175.00	\$ 9,175.00	\$ 10,100.00	\$ 10,100.00	(ACT 380 Sec 13 authority) fixed % of district budget
2	WINTER ROADS	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 118,500.00	\$ 118,500.00	\$ 118,500.00	\$ 113,625.00	\$ 113,625.00	\$ 126,000.00	\$ 126,000.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)
3	GENERAL ROADS	\$ 98,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 97,030.00	\$ 97,030.00	\$ 107,000.00	\$ 107,000.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)
4	WATERWAYS	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 25,950.00	\$ 25,950.00	\$ 28,500.00	\$ 28,500.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)
5	ROAD SUPERINTENDENT	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,303.00	\$ 6,303.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)
6	ROAD SUPERINTENDENT EXPENSES	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 242.50	\$ 242.50	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	
7	CLERK/TREASURER	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,303.00	\$ 6,303.00	\$ 7,200.00	\$ 7,200.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)
8	DISTRICT EXPENSES	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 2,496.25	\$ 2,496.25	\$ 4,600.00	\$ 4,600.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)
9	PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE EXPENSES	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 242.50	\$ 242.50	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	(ACT 380 Sec 18 Committee's compensation)
10	OUTSOURCED SVCS	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 4,511.50	\$ 4,511.50	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	(professional provider - contractual noncompetitive bid)
11	CONTRACT SVCS	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,235.00	\$ 5,235.00	\$ 5,900.00	\$ 5,900.00	(ACT 380 Sec 18 Moderator's compensation)
12	INSURANCE	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 17,100.00	\$ 17,100.00	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00	MGL Ch 258 § 2, 8 & 13 statutory authority & limitation
13	UNCLASSIFIED EXPENSES	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,544.00	\$ 1,544.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	MGL statutes
14	FUND ACCOUNTS	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,755.00	\$ 4,755.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00	MGL Ch 40 Sec 6 NOT TO EXCEED 5% OF PREVIOUS FY'S LEVY
	GENERAL RESERVE FUND	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,755.00	\$ 4,755.00	\$ 3,200.00	\$ 3,200.00	MGL Ch 40 Sec 5B NOT TO EXCEED 10% AMT RAISED IN PRECEDING FY
	STABILIZATION FUND	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 7,834.00	\$ 7,834.00	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 8,600.00	TAXPAYER REIMBURSEMENTS FOR OVERPAYMENT OR ABATEMENTS
	OVERLAY ACCOUNT	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 7,834.00	\$ 7,834.00	\$ 8,600.00	\$ 8,600.00	RAN (.65%) INTEREST FOR SHORT TERM DEBT
	REVENUE/BOND ANTICIPATION NOTE	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 12,540.00	\$ 12,540.00	\$ 11,800.00	\$ 11,800.00	
	<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	\$ 294,600.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 304,500.00	\$ 304,500.00	\$ 324,900.00	\$ 324,900.00	Increase is less the 3% over 2022
	FREE CASH APPROPRIATION	\$ 8,838.00	\$ 9,458.25	\$ 9,458.25	\$ 9,458.25	\$ 9,075.25	\$ 9,075.25	\$ 9,747.00	\$ 9,747.00	
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	\$ 294,600.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 304,500.00	\$ 304,500.00	\$ 324,900.00	\$ 324,900.00	
	NOTES:									
	Line 1 Town's Assessors & Tax Collectors Fee 3%									
	Lines 2, 3, 4, 8, 10 & 11 (All bids subject to MGL Ch 30B monetary limitations)									
	NOTES:									
	FY 2019 Budget APPROPRIATION Approved at the SFRMD Annual District Meeting on June 16, 2018									
	FY 2020 Budget APPROPRIATION Approved at the SFRMD Annual District Meeting on June 29, 2019									
	FY 2021 Budget APPROPRIATION Approved at the SFRMD Annual District Meeting on June 27, 2020									
	FY 2022 Budget APPROPRIATION Approved at the SFRMD Annual District Meeting on June 12, 2021									

**SHERWOOD FOREST ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT  
PROXY FORM**

The undersigned, being a recorded owner of real estate in Sherwood Forest in the Town of Becket:

(Print your name above this line and remember to use a separate proxy form for each parcel owned.)

(List above a description of the property owned, include Road/Street Name, Assessors Map and Lot Number.)

As of (\_\_\_\_\_), hereby appoints as my/our representative:  
(Print date above)

**Dr. Howard G. Lerner, 21 Mystic Isle Way, Becket, MA 01223, Stanley C. Taylor, 7 Gulf Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545, and Steve Rosenthal, 84 Mystic Isle Way, Becket, MA 01223;** or any of them, acting singly, to represent me/us and to vote on my/our behalf with full authority and power in my/our stead:

or

To vote as proxy for the undersigned at all Special and Annual District Meetings, called by Warrant of the Prudential Committee of the Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District acting under the authority of Chapter 68 Acts of 2019 of the Massachusetts General Laws, to be held at the Becket Town Hall, 557 Main St., Becket, Massachusetts 01223, and at any or all adjournments or continuation thereof, and to cast any vote which the undersigned would be entitled to cast at such meetings if then personally present.

This proxy shall be in full force and effect at all District Meetings until a succeeding proxy is issued unless written revocation is delivered to the District Clerk not later than 10 days prior to a scheduled meeting.

The undersigned being a recorded owner hereby authorize the above-named Proxy.

WITNESS my hand (signature) this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

(PLEASE SIGN YOUR NAME AS IT APPEARS ON YOUR DEED)

**INDIVIDUAL**

**OR**

**TRUST, CORPORATION etc.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized recorded/owner's signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Entity)  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Its Title: \_\_\_\_\_ duly authorized.)

**Please mail the Proxy Form to:  
Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District  
2 Wells Road  
Becket, MA 01223**



# SFRMD READ FIRST

## EXPLANATION/INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Proprietor:

Enclosed you will find documents which may require **action** on your part.

The document you should read first is **Annual District Meeting Warrant**. It explains in article form what district business will be conducted on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

The **Annual District Meeting** will take place at 1:00 PM. These articles cover a variety of topics from the election of the prudential committee members, to budgeting funds to cover FY2023 expenses, and to dealing with proprietors who have requested to be excluded.

Next review the **SFRMD Projected Operating Budget for FY2023**. It covers the anticipated costs in each expense category. The projected budget is like the one approved last year, but you should note that the FY2022 budget contains a 3% cost increase. This year, due to inflation, the prudential committee is again recommending a 3% budgetary increase due in part to soaring fuel and energy cost brought on by the invasion of the Ukraine, lack of basic materials and workforce shortages. Fortunately, the district was able adjust early on the fiscal year, but some projects had to be modified. Early winter maintenance initially was average but late winter and early spring weather conditions rose markedly.

Everyone should understand that all budgets are based on anticipated costs for work to be performed over the course of the next fiscal year which starts July 1<sup>st</sup>. Please expect that some road work projects might not be completed to the standards residents have come to expect and some projects will have to be cut back or even eliminated.


However, the prudential committee and road superintendent will ensure that the roads are always safe for passage, although residents may have to drive a bit more cautiously if the gravel surface is a bit rough.

Plowing and sanding is the district's top priority when winter arrives. District roads must always remain open for travel by proprietors, but this is especially important for emergency safety personnel such as police, fire, ambulance crews. Additionally, fuel delivery services and electric company personnel need access. Please remember everyone must be patient as there are approximately 20 miles of roads within the community, and it takes time to get them open after the last flake has fallen. Icy conditions on dirt roads present another challenge and everyone needs to realize that it takes time to treat the roads with sand. Mud season in the spring is another major challenge that requires large quantities of processed gravel.

Last is the **Proxy**. Chapter 68 of the Act of 2019 known as the enabling legislation, affords all proprietors who own property within Sherwood Forest the opportunity to vote at the Annual District Meeting. It was the result of legislation enacted by the Commonwealth. Additionally, the Act grandfathered voting rights to residents who qualified under the original legislation. The prudential committee would like all proprietors to attend the Annual District Meeting and voice their opinions and vote on each warrant article, however, they also realize that this is impossible for many for a variety of reasons including those who are just elderly. The **proxy** gives everyone a chance to participate in the decision-making process in that you can assign your vote to an individual or group of individuals who will attend and vote on your behalf.

For those who would like to remotely listen to the proceedings, the district has set up a tele-conferencing opportunity. Proprietors may call the following number **1 (623) 600-3762** and use access code **114253**. The conference number is located out of state, so you should be aware that long-distance rate charges may apply. Many cell phone plans have free weekend calling plans and unlimited US coverage, but please make sure that your plan does, or the call could be expensive!

If you cannot wish not to attend, **sign, and return** your **proxy** in the enclosed return envelope or give it to someone you know who will attend the meeting. The proxy holder(s) will vote on your behalf. Mailed proxies need to reach the Becket Post Office not later than **Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup>** to be counted. **Please don't forget postage.**

  
The Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District is an equal opportunity provider.

For the Prudential Committee,  
Robert T. Ronzio  
SFRMD Clerk & Treasurer

**PS IMPORTANT:** If you have already returned a **SFRMD Proxy** for this year, you do not need to send in another **DUPLICATE** proxy, but if in doubt return it. Only one proxy per parcel will be counted. If more than one proxy is submitted, the one with the most recent date will take precedence.

To keep you better informed please enter your **email address** in the box below and return it with your proxy.

Email addresses are for SFLD informational purposes only and will never be shared or sold.