# **COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**

Berkshire, ss.

## 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 proprietors of The Sherwood Forest Lake District who are qualified to vote in District affairs to meet in the BECKET TOWN HALL, 557 Main Street, on the 27th Day of June, 2020, 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 the proprietors is present in person and/or by proxy. If the presiding moderator or in his absence the District Clerk determines that a quorum is present, this Annual District Meeting of the Sherwood Forest Lake 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 fifty (50) proprietors of the District in attendance or by proxy, is present.

Majority Vote Required

Article 2: To see if the District proprietors will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray the expenses of the District for the 2021 fiscal year as delineated in Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2010 and as set forth in the attached proposed SFLD - Operating Budget - FY2021:

Prudential Committee: Recommend

Majority Vote Required

Article 3: To see if the District proprietors will vote to appropriate \$500,000.00 for the restoration of a dam within Sherwood Forest known as Lancelot Lake Dam and for payment of any and all costs incidental and related thereto, including the costs to operate and maintain the dam and that to meet this appropriation, the District Treasurer, with the approval of the Prudential Committee is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to G.L. c. 44, § 7(7) or pursuant to c. 107 of the Acts of 2010 or any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or note of the District thereof, and further, that the Prudential Committee and any other appropriate officers of the District are authorized to execute and deliver any and all agreements, documents or certificates that may be necessary or convenient to carrying out the objective of this motion or take any other action relative thereto.

Prudential Committee: Recommend

2/3 Vote Required

Article 4: The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for District clerk/treasurer to see if the District proprietors will vote by secret ballot to elect a clerk/treasurer who must be a proprietor entitled to vote at district meetings. The term of service shall be three years from the date of this 2020 Annual District Meeting until the election and qualification of the clerk/treasurer's successor. The clerk/treasurer must be bonded within ten (10) days of the assumption of office or the office will be declared vacant.

Majority Vote Required

Article 5: The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for District assistant treasurer to see if the District proprietors will vote by secret to elect an assistant treasurer who must be a proprietor entitled to vote at district meetings. The assistant treasurer will only assume the duties of the treasurer if the treasurer's position become vacant or if the treasurer is incapacitated and incapable of performing the duties of the office due to illness or incapacity as determined by a licensed medical professional or the courts. The assistant treasurer must be bonded within ten (10) days of the assumption of office or the office will be declared vacant. The term of service shall be three years from the date of this 2020 Annual District Meeting until the election and qualification of the assistant treasurer's successor.

Majority Vote Required

Article 6: The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for individuals to fill three (3) Prudential Committee positions. The moderator will then have the District proprietors vote to elect by secret ballot three (3) regular members, each of whom shall be proprietors of the district, and none of whom may be the clerk, treasurer, or assistant treasurer, to the Prudential Committee from among those nominated. The terms of service of the three elected regular members shall be one (3) years from the date of this 2020 Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors.

**Majority Vote Required** 

Article 7: The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor for individuals to fill one (1) Prudential Committee vacancy position. The moderator will then have the District proprietors vote to elect by secret ballot one (1) regular member, who shall be proprietors of the district, and who may not be the clerk, treasurer, or assistant treasurer, to the Prudential Committee from among those nominated. The terms of service of the elected regular member shall be one (1) year from the date of this 2020 Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors.

### Majority Vote Required

Article 8: The moderator shall entertain nominations from the floor, each of whom shall be a proprietor who may or may not be a Prudential Committee member, to fill each of the following voluntary positions; Superintendent of Dams, Superintendent of Beaches and Boats, and Superintendent of Lakes, and to have each of these individuals report to and serve under the direction of the Prudential Committee. The terms of service of each superintendent shall be one (1) year from the date of this 2020 Annual District Meeting and/or until the election and qualification of their successors or to take any other action relative thereto.

**Prudential Committee: Recommend** 

Majority Vote Required

Article 9: To see if the District proprietors will vote to exclude those proprietors who have been recommended by the Prudential Committee on the attached list as having met the criteria set forth in Section 21 of Chapter 107 of the Acts of 2010, including submitting an Opt-Out Form or its equivalent stating the reason for seeking exclusion and exemption from taxation and having agreed to release any easement rights to access the lakes and beaches in the District if their request is acted upon favorably. The Prudential Committee may charge a reasonable fee to the petitioner in order to verify that the petitioner is the record titleholder for the parcel. The exclusion from taxation does not become final until a release of casement rights acceptable to the Prudential Committee is recorded in the Berkshire Middle District Registry of Deeds and petitioner has paid all recording fees. A copy of the recorded release and vote of the Prudential Committee also must be filed with the Town of Becket's Board of Assessors by the petitioner.

Prudential Committee: Recommendation annotated for each petitioner's request Majority Vote Required

And you are further directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies of the same at the usual places designated by the town 14 days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this day of Attestation **Prudential** The Sherwood Forest Lake District Prudential Committee Members Committee Electronically Voted and Approved the following documents SFLD 2020 Annual District Meeting Warrant of SFLD 2020 Special District Meeting Warrant SFLD FY2021 Project Operating Budget **Sherwood Forest** SFLD 2020 Proxy Form Lake District Attested this 9th day of May 2020 Robert T. Ronzio Clerk & Treasurer Sherwood Forest Lake District

I have served this warrant as directed above.

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Constable

Becket, Massachusetts

Attestation

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Michael Hunt Electronically

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Clerk & Tressurer

# 5/22/20 9:27 AM

# SHERWOOD FOREST LAKE DISTRICT - PROJECTED OPERATING BUDGET - FY 2021

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LINE 7/01/2020 - 6/30/2021	┸		1 OPERATING EXPENSES A	TIME METALLINES	Z DAM MANAGEMENT		3 LAKE MANAGEMENT A		BEACH & BOAT LAUNCH	4 MANAGEMENT N		5 PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEXPENSES		6 DISTRICT EXPENSES C		7 INDEP CONTRACTOR N		8 INSURANCE		9 UNCLASSIFIED EXPENS F		10 OUTSOURCED SVCs L		FUND ACCOUNTS		12						NOTES	line 1 Town's Assessors & Tax Collectors Fee 3%	Lines 2, 3, 4, 6, 8 & 10 (	FY 2018 Budget Appro	FY 2019 Budget Appro	COC NO DESCRIPTION OF VO

# SFLD READ FIRST EXPLANATION/INSTRUCTIONS

Dear Proprietor:

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

The documents you should read first are the **Special District Meeting Warrant** and **Annual District Meeting Warrant**. It explains in article form what district business will be conducted on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

The **Special District Meeting** is scheduled to begin at 12:05 PM. This meeting enables the prudential committee on your authority to re-allocate or transfer unexpended funds to cover expenses in categories that need additional money. All unexpended money left over at the end of the fiscal year will be carried forward into the next fiscal year. **Think of it as balancing your checkbook**.

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 FY2021 expenses, and to dealing with proprietors who have requested to be excluded.

Next review the SFLD Projected Operating Budget for FY2021. It covers the anticipated costs in each expense category. The projected budget is similar to last year due in part to continued mandatory Office of Dam Safety reports and the development of a revised construction plan as the result of the appeal to the Department of Environmental Protection Plan regarding the engineering design specifications and environmental permitting for Lancelot Lake. Anticipated costs associated with the Lancelot Dam repair are expected to be in line with last year's projections due to governmental mandates on construction caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. Additionally, the district was awarded a \$703,000 grant from the Commonwealth. This spring the prudential committee with help from Tighe & Bond is in the process of re-applying for a state guaranteed loan through the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs to cover the balance now that all DEP permits have been issued. The project's senior engineers, environmental scientists and the district's attorney all feel confident that the loan funding will be approved this spring even though the state anticipated budget for the upcoming FY is currently in a projected deficit status because the loan fund is separate from the commonwealth's annual budget.

The USDA has again requested that proprietors fill out and return their demographic survey.

Last is the **Proxy**. 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 to include the Covid-19 restriction regarding gatherings and social distancing requirements. The **proxy** gives you 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 actually located in Arizona, so you need to be able to call there without paying long-distance rates. Most cell phones have free weekends and unlimited US coverage, but make sure!

If you cannot 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 26**th to be counted. **Please don't forget postage**.

The Sherwood Forest Lake District is an equal opportunity provider.

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

**PS IMPORTANT:** If you have already returned a **SFLD 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.

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.

# COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Berkshire, ss.

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 proprietors of The Sherwood Forest Lake District who are qualified to vote in District affairs to meet in the BECKET TOWN HALL, 557 Main Street, on the 27th Day of June, 2020, at 12:05 o'clock P.M., for the following purposes:

# **Special 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 the proprietors are present in person and/or by proxy. If the presiding moderator or in his absence the District Clerk determines that a quorum is present, this Special District Meeting of the Sherwood Forest Lake 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 to serve in that capacity for the duration of the Special meeting. Said newly elected moderator shall again certify to the Special District meeting that a quorum, consisting of fifty (50) proprietors of the District in attendance or by proxy, is present.

Majority Vote Required

Article 2: To see if th	e District proprietors will v	ote to appropriate the sum o	f\$1,000.00 to fund	the following at the listed amount	, for the balance
of the fiscal year:					
	Operating Expenses	new total	\$7.600.00		

and to fund this by transferring \$1,000.00 from General Reserve Fund

Prudential Committee: Recommend

Majority Vote Required

Article 3: To see if the District proprietors will vote to appropriate the sum of \$12,000.00 to fund the following at the listed amount for the balance of the fiscal year:

Insurance

new total \$37,000.00

and to fund this by transferring \$7,000.00 from General Reserve and \$5,000.00 from Lake Management

Prudential Committee: Recommend

Majority Vote Required

Article 4: To see if the District proprietors will vote to appropriate the sum of \$400.00 to fund the following at the listed amount for the balance of the fiscal year:

Outsourced Services

new total \$600.00

and to fund this by transferring \$400,00 from General Reserve

Prudential Committee: Recommend

Majority Vote Required

And you are further directed to serve this warrant by posting attested copies of the same at the usual places designated by the fown 14 days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

Hereof fall not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said

meeting.

Given under our hands this

Attestation

The Sherwood Forest Lake District Prudential Committee Members Electronically Voted and Approved the following documents

SFLD 2020 Annual District Meeting Warrant SFLD 2020 Special District Meeting Warrant SFLD FY2021 Project Operating Budget SFLD 2020 Proxy Form

Artested this 9th day of May 2020.

Robert T. Ronzio Clerk & Treasurer Sherwood Forest Lake District

**Prudential** 

Committee

Sherwood Forest

Lake District

I have served this warrant as directed above.

Constable

Becket, Massachusetts 4/11,

Attestation

he Town of Becket Constable

The SFLD 2020 Special District Meeting W.

Clerk & Treasurer Sherwood Forest Lake District



### **United States Department of Agriculture**



### Sherwood Forest Lake District PO Box 663 Becket, MA01223-0663 Email: www.sfldbecket.com The SFLD is an equal opportunity provider.

# **RECORD KEEPING**

The Sherwood Forest Lake District (SFLD), as a recipient of federal financial assistance, is required to to annually survey the community to ensure that the district does not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, gender, familial status or disability. Since the district must collect and track the data by **ethnic**, **racial/national origin and gender status**, a survey will be sent out along with the Annual District Meeting mailing. We encourage proprietors to return the form to the district clerk. Since the information is considered sensitive you may not wish to include it with your proxy or put a return address on the envelope.

### **DEMOGRAPHIC SURVEY**

The following information is requested by the Federal Government in order to monitor our compliance with various civil rights laws. You are not required to furnish this information, but are encouraged to do so. The law requires that we may not discriminate based upon this information, nor whether you choose to furnish it. However, if you choose not to furnish it, under Federal regulations we are required to note the race and sex on the basis of visual observation or surname. If you do not wish to furnish the below information, please check the first box.

REQUESTED CIV	IL RIGHTS COMPLIANCE INFORMATION:	
Ethnicity:	Hispanic or Latino	•
	Not Hispanic or Latino	
Race/National Orig	gin:	
	American Indian or Alaskan Native	
	Asian	<u></u>
	Black or African American	
	Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	
	White	
Sex:	Female	
	Male	-

Rural Development • Hadley Service Center 195 Russell Street, B7 • Hadley MA 01035 Voice (413) 585-1000 Ext 4 • Fax (413) 586-8648 TDD (413)253-4590

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form (PDF), found online at <a href="http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html">http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\_filing\_cust.html</a>, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.