

# 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 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.

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 5:** 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 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 6:** 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.

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 7:** 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.

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 8:** To see if the District voters will vote to transfer funding for the following FY2020 accounts at the listed amount for the balance of the fiscal year:

District Expenses	new total \$4,214.50
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and to fund this by transferring \$886.49 from General Reserve  
 Attorney new total \$6,550.00  
 and to fund this by transferring \$2,000.00 from General Reserve  
 Insurance new total \$13,014.13  
 and to fund this by transferring \$6,764.13 from Overlay

**Prudential Committee: Recommend**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 9:** To see if the District voters will vote to pay the following unpaid bill from Fiscal 2019

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sufficient sum of money to pay the following unpaid bill of a prior year as provided for in MGL C. 44, Section 64:

Vendor	Date	Amount
White Wolf Trucking and Excavation Inc. Inv #0359	4/30/2019	\$3,908.65

Or take any other action relative thereto:

**Prudential Committee: Recommend**

**9/10<sup>th</sup> Vote Required**

**Article 10.** To see if the District eligible voters will vote to raise and appropriate such sums of money as may be needed to defray the operating expenses of the District for the 2021 fiscal year as delineated in Chapter 380 of the Legislative Acts of 1982 and as set forth in the attached proposed **SFRMD Operating Budget - FY2021**: in the amount of \$315,275.00 or to take any other related there to.

**Prudential Committee: Recommend**

**Majority Vote Required**

**Article 11:** To see if the District will vote to approve the petition of a person or persons who own property on Wells Road and who seeks to be excluded from the District under Section 21 of Chapter 380 of the Legislative Acts of 1982, as recommended by the Prudential Committee.

The list showing all petitioners this year is attached to this warrant.

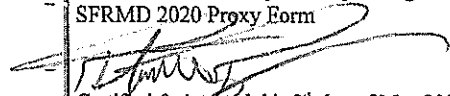
**Prudential Committee: Recommend**

**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 town 14 days at least before the time of holding said meeting.

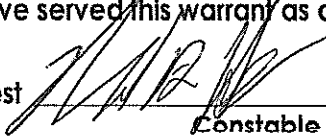
Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant with your doings thereon at the time and place of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 9 day of May, 2020

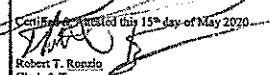
Attestation  
 The Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District  
 Prudential Committee Members  
 Electronically Voted and Approved  
 the following documents  
 SFRMD 2020 Annual District Meeting Warrant  
 SFRMD 2020 Special District Meeting Warrant  
 SFRMD FY2021 Projected Operating Budget  
 SFRMD 2020 Proxy Form  
  
 Certified & Attested this 9<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020  
 Robert T. Ronzio  
 Clerk & Treasurer  
 Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

**Prudential  
 Committee  
 of  
 Sherwood Forest  
 Road Maintenance  
 District**

I have served this warrant as directed above.

Attest   
 Constable

Becket, Massachusetts 6-5-20  
 (date)

Attestation  
 The Town of Becket Constable  
 Michael Hunt  
 Electronically Signed  
 The SFRMD 2020 Special District Meeting Warrant  
 The SFRMD 2020 Annual District Meeting Warrant  
  
 Certified & Attested this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020  
 Robert T. Ronzio  
 Clerk & Treasurer  
 Sherwood Forest Road Maintenance District

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

Next review the **SFRMD Projected Operating Budget for FY2021**. It covers the anticipated costs in each expense category. The projected budget is similar to the one approved last year. You should note that the FY2021 budget contains no upward adjustment despite the generally anticipated cost increases due solely to inflation. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted everyone in the community, the state and country in many ways. So, the prudential committee decided that despite inflation some belt tightening is in order to reduce the tax burden for everyone given the financial impact that we all bear together.

Everyone should understand that 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>. With this in mind expect that some road work might not be completed to the standards residents have come to expect and some projects may have to be put off.

However, the prudential committee and road superintendent will make sure that the roads are safe for passage at all times during these difficult times. Residents may have to drive a bit more cautiously if the surface is rough but that may be a small sacrifice.

Winter plowing and sanding are a priority and the roads will be open for travel and passaged by proprietors and especially emergency safety personnel to include police, fire, ambulance as well as fuel delivery services and electric company personnel. Everyone must be patient as there are approximately 20 miles of roads within the community and it takes time to get them all 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 them with sand.

Last is the **Proxy**. This is something new. It is the result of legislation enacted by the Commonwealth in 2019. Chapter 68 of the Act of 2019 enables every district proprietor an opportunity to vote at the Annual District Meeting. Additionally, it grandfathers 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 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 19<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.

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.

**SHERWOOD FOREST ROAD MAINTENANCE DISTRICT - PROJECTED OPERATING BUDGET - FY 2021**

LINE	7/01/2020 - 6/30/2021	SUB CATEGORY	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	APPROPRIATION	NOTES
ITEM	CATEGORY		2018 APPROVED	2019 APPROVED	2020 APPROVED	2021 PROJECTED %			
1	OPERATING EXPENSES	ASSESSORS & TAX COLLECTION	\$ 9,270.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00	(ACT 380 Sec 13 authority) fixed % of district budget		
2	WINTER ROADS	PLOWING & SANDING EXPENSES	\$ 113,300.00	\$ 115,000.00	\$ 118,500.00	\$ 118,500.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)		
3	GENERAL ROADS	SURFACE GRADING & GRAVELING	\$ 97,850.00	\$ 98,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	\$ 101,000.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)		
		Permitting & Engineering	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
4	WATERWAYS	DITCHING, CULVERTS & OUTLETS	\$ 25,750.00	\$ 26,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	\$ 27,000.00	(CONTRACT Professional providers)		
		Erosion & Sediment Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
		Bank Stabilization & Beaver Control	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
5	ROAD SUPERINTENENT	SALARY	\$ 6,592.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)		
6	ROAD SUPERINTENENT	EXPENSES	\$ 206.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00			
7	CLERK/TREASURER	SALARY	\$ 6,386.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	\$ 6,600.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)		
8	DISTRICT EXPENSES	OFFICE & OTHER ASSOCIATED EXH	\$ 2,214.50	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,575.00	\$ 4,275.00	(ACT 380 & BY-LAWS)		
9	PRUDENTIAL COMMIT	EXPENSES	\$ 257.50	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00	(ACT 380 Sec 18 Committee's compensation)		
10	OUTSOURCED SVCS	LEGAL/ACCO UNTANT/AUDITOR	\$ 3,605.00	\$ 4,550.00	\$ 4,700.00	\$ 8,000.00	(professional provider - contractual noncompetitive bid)		
11	CONTRACT SVCS	ENGINEERING/WEBSITE/MODERAT	\$ 515.00	\$ 5,200.00	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,500.00	(ACT 380 Sec 18 Moderator's compensation)		
12	INSURANCE	GENERAL LIABILITY & INDEMNIFY	\$ 4,120.00	\$ 6,250.00	\$ 18,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	MGL Ch 258 § 2, 8 & 13 statutory authority & limitation		
13	UNCLASSIFIED EXPEN	FICA/MEDICARE/HEALTH/UNEMP	\$ 1,339.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,600.00	MGL statutes		
14	FUND ACCOUNTS	WORKERS COMP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
		GENERAL RESERVE FUND	\$ 4,635.00	\$ 4,900.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	MGL Ch 40 Sec 6 NOT TO EXCEED 5% OF PREVIOUS FY'S LEVY		
		STABILIZATION FUND	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	MGL Ch 40 Sec 5B NOT TO EXCEED 10% AMT RAISED IN PRECEDING FY		
		OVERLAY ACCOUNT	\$ 7,931.00	\$ 8,000.00	\$ 8,200.00	\$ 8,200.00	TAXPAYER REIMBURSEMENTS FOR OVERPAYMENT OR ABATEMENTS		
		REVENUE/BOND ANTICIPATION NO	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	RAN (.65%) INTEREST FOR SHORT TERM DEBT		
		<b>SUB TOTAL</b>	\$ 7,931.00	\$ 12,900.00	\$ 13,200.00	\$ 11,200.00			
		FREE CASH APPROPRIATION	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
		<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	\$ 279,336.00	\$ 294,600.00	\$ 315,275.00	\$ 315,275.00			
	NOTES:		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -			
	Line 1 Town's Assessors & Tax Collectors Fee 3%		\$ 231.00	\$ 8,838.00	\$ 9,458.25	\$ 9,458.25			
	Lines 2, 3, 4, 8, 10 & 11 (All bids subject to MGL Ch 30B monetary limitations)								
	NOTES:								
	FY 2018 Budget APPROPRIATION Approved at the SFRMD Annual District Meeting on June 17, 2017								
	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								

**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 Road, 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**