

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT

Town of Sheffield Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Berkshire, ss

To the Constables of the Town of Sheffield in said County of Berkshire, *Greeting:*

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are hereby directed to notify and warn the Inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield, qualified to vote in Town affairs, to meet in the auditorium of the Mount Everett Regional High School, 491 Berkshire School Road in Sheffield on Monday, May 3, 2021 at 6:00 P.M. for the following purposes:

ARTICLE 1: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds, such sums of money as listed below, and as may be amended, necessary to defray the expenses of the Town for Fiscal Year 2022, or take any other action relative thereto.

Moderator.....	\$ 200	Energy.....	\$132,000
Selectmen's Office.....	\$223,034	Board of Health.....	\$ 44,385
Board of Assessors.....	\$ 97,743	Visiting Nurse Association.....	\$ 4,000
Treasurer/Collector.....	\$117,392	Council on Aging.....	\$128,144
Town Clerk.....	\$ 67,869	Veterans Benefits.....	\$ 75,050
Elections & Registration.....	\$ 11,050	Library.....	\$194,968
Conservation Commission.....	\$ 2,450	Historical Commission.....	\$ 750
Planning Board.....	\$ 2,900	Memorial Day.....	\$ 1,200
Commission on Disabilities.....	\$ 300	American Legion.....	\$ 500
Zoning Board of Appeals.....	\$ 1,000	Care of Soldier's Graves.....	\$ 1,400
Town Buildings & Grounds.....	\$151,805	Ashley Falls Historic Dist. Comm. \$	500
Town Report & Communications \$	6,000	Agricultural Commission.....	\$ 1,000
Legal Services.....	\$ 35,000	Interest on Loans.....	\$ 1
Dispatch Services.....	\$ 11,237	Berkshire County Retirement.....	\$261,710
Police Department.....	\$535,127	Worker's Compensation.....	\$ 18,500
Fire Department.....	\$ 84,212	Insurance & Bonding.....	\$ 72,000
Inspectional Services.....	\$ 47,778	Group Health (32B) Insurance.....	\$446,000
Fire Hydrants.....	\$ 30,000	Employer Medicare.....	\$ 30,000
Animal Control.....	\$ 13,500	Emergency Medical Services.....	\$ 12,000
Highway Department.....	\$392,784	Unemployment Compensation....	\$ 15,000
Snow Removal.....	\$225,998		

ARTICLE 2: To see if the Town will vote to fix the compensation of the following elected officers of the Town for Fiscal Year 2022, as required by Chapter 41, Section 108 and Chapter 71, Section 52 of the General Laws: Moderator, \$200; Selectmen, Chairman \$2,773; Selectmen, two members at \$2,401 each; Southern Berkshire Regional School District School Committee, 4 members at \$500 each; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Operating and Transportation Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 and vote to raise and appropriate \$7,268,052 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Roof and Boiler Debt for Fiscal Year 2022, and vote to raise and appropriate \$151,061 to pay the Town's assessed share of that debt, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to approve the Southern Berkshire Regional School District Capital Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, and vote to raise and appropriate \$149,722 to pay the Town's assessed share of that budget, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$28,000 to pay for vocational education tuition in Fiscal Year 2022, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$8,000 for the purpose of supporting the work of the Regional School District Planning Board in its study of the financial and educational advisability of options for consolidating the Southern Berkshire Regional School District and the Berkshire Hills Regional School District, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds \$140,910 for the disposal and management of solid waste, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take any action to effectuate the purpose of the article, including but not limited to entering into agreements in excess of three years for such solid waste disposal and management, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to accept funds being provided by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under the provisions of Chapter 90 of the General Laws, to pay for such costs as allowed by appropriate legislation in connection with the maintenance, repair, and construction of Town ways and bridges, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the appointment of members of the Board of Selectmen to any office or position under its supervision at no additional compensation in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 268A, Section 21A of the General Laws, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Health to employ any of its members as Title 5 and Perc Test Witnesses for Septic System Inspections, and Sanitation Inspections under its supervision in accordance with G.L. c. 268A, Section 21A for Fiscal Year 2022 and to set the salary for those positions at \$40 per Title V Inspections and \$100 per Perc Tests in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 41, Section 4A, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer/Collector to sell, with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, any parcel or parcels of real estate which have been or may be acquired through the foreclosure of tax title, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, \$77,000 to provide for extraordinary or unforeseen expenditures under the provisions of Chapter 40, Section 6 of the General Laws, known as the Reserve Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$750 to the Emergency Response Fund, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$20,000 to Compensate firefighters for training, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$5,000 for financial services, including but not limited to audits or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.44, §53E½, as most recently amended, to establish Fiscal Year 2022 spending limits for the revolving funds as set forth below:

Authorized Revolving Funds	Fiscal Year Expenditure Limit
Plumbing Inspector	\$25,000
Gas Inspector	\$20,000
Electrical Inspector	\$20,000
Fire Safety Inspector	\$20,000
Board of Health	\$25,000
Senior Transportation	\$15,000
Senior Center Programming	\$10,000
Tax Title Fees	\$10,000

Or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$10,000 for Rest of River legal expenses, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to transfer the sum of \$30,000 from the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund for recycling programs/repairs at the Transfer Station, including any incidental and related costs, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$260,000 for the purchase of a highway truck, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$5,000 for Tax Recertification, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$10,000 for Tax Title, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds \$20,000 for Dry Hydrant repairs, or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into a Tax Agreement pursuant to M.G.L. Chapter 59, Section 38H(b), and Chapter 164, Section 1, and/or any other enabling authority with Sheffield MA 1, LLC for personal property taxes associated with the 2.125 MW solar photovoltaic facility located on the property on 1595 Hewins Street, Map 8, Block 4, Lot 13, in Sheffield, and described in a deed recorded with the Berkshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 405, Page 144, for a term of up to 20 years, on such terms and conditions as the Board of Selectmen deems to be in the best interest of the Town, and to take any and all actions as may be necessary or convenient to accomplish the purpose of this article; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$106,973 for the second year payment of fire truck lease purchase financing agreement; or take any other action relative thereto.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to change the Zoning Bylaws as follows; or take any other action relative thereto: 1. **Amend Section 3.1.3 Table of Use Regulations to delete the strike through language and add language in BOLD italics, as follows:**

Principal Use	District				Notes
	R	V	C	G	
		C		B	
D. Commercial Uses					
31. Retail store, individual	Ref. Sec.	Y	Y	N PB	For the Rural District, refer to Section 3.1.4 for determination if a <i>by right</i> use or <i>by Special</i>

	3.1.4				Permit. Refer to Sections 3.1.4 and 3.1.5 for size conditions. <i>Refer to Section 9.4 for Special Permit requirements.</i>
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ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to amend the following Zoning Bylaws as follows; or take any other action thereto:

Amend Section 3.1.3 Table of Use Regulations to delete the strike through language and add language in *BOLD italics*, as follows:

Principal Use	District				Notes
	R	V C	C	GB	
G. Accessory Uses					
11. Home occupation	Y	Y	P B	N PB	<i>Refer to Section 9.4 for Special Permit requirements. Refer to Section 3.2.1. for Special Permit conditions in the Commercial District.</i>

2. Amend Section 3.2 Accessory Uses or Structures, as follows to delete the strike through language and add language in *BOLD italics*:

3.2.1 Home Occupation. A home occupation shall be allowed as an accessory use of a single or two-family residential structure, involving provision or sale of goods and services (including members of the building trades such as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc.) and the creation of handicrafts and artwork:

1. by right in the Rural District and Village Center District; and;
2. by Special Permit in the Commercial District *and General Business District* ~~if~~

~~residences in~~ *existence on or before May 23, 1994;*

Provided that the home occupation:


1. is carried on by members of the family residing on the premises and has regularly no more than one full-time or three part-time (less than 20 hours per week), non-resident assistant(s) or employee(s);
2. is clearly incidental, secondary and accessory to the use of the structure for residential purposes and comprises not more than 30% of the total floor area of the residence;
3. has no onsite advertising, other than one unlit sign of not more than 10 square feet in area;
4. has no external storage visible from any public highway or neighboring residence;
5. does not generate vehicular traffic exceeding that normally expected in residential areas;
6. produces no external effects not normally associated with the use of residential property;
7. has sufficient off-street parking spaces available to provide for the parking needs generated;
8. has no external alteration to the structure which would change the residential character of the dwelling;
9. has no artificial outdoor illumination, other than the normal and customary outdoor lighting for single-family residences (such as a customary porch light or garage light or walkway light).

You are directed to serve this Warrant by posting an attested copy in seven public places in the Town, not less than seven days before the date of said meeting.

Hereof Fail not, and make return of this Warrant to the Town Clerk, with your doings thereon, at or before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands and the Seal of the Town of Sheffield this 16th day of April in the year of our Lord Two Thousand and Twenty One.

BOARD OF SELECTMEN:


Rene C. Wood

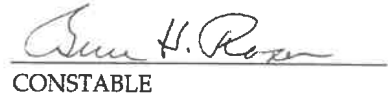

Martin C. Mitsoff

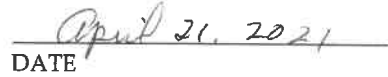

Robert C. Kilmer Jr.

In obedience to the within Warrant, I have notified and warned the inhabitants of the Town of Sheffield qualified to vote in Town or State Elections and Primaries by posting seven attested copies of said warrant in seven public places at least seven days prior to said election.

ATTEST:


TOWN CLERK


CONSTABLE


DATE