

*Attue copy. Attest
Julie Haas
Town Clerk*

**Town of Egremont, MA
Special Town Meeting
September 17, 2019**

The Egremont Special Town Meeting of September 17, 2019 at the North Egremont Fire House, 175 Egremont Plain Road, Egremont, Mass. was called to order at 7:08 pm by Moderator Stephen Cohen. The Moderator attested to the proper service of the warrant and the presence of a quorum. Town officials were introduced and the pledge was recited. The Moderator gave instructions for the meeting.

ARTICLE 1: George McGurn, Selectboard Chairman made a motion to take no action on the Egremont Planning Board proposed by-law on Accessory Dwelling Units. The motion received a second.

Chairman McGurn thanked the members of the Planning Board and the Housing Committee for their hard work to date and instructed both groups to produce a version in the future which would meet the community's needs.

Moderator Cohen and Town Counsel both spoke that the motion on the matter is to continue indefinitely.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a majority show of hands.

ARTICLE 2: Motion made and seconded for the Town to appropriate \$200,000.00 to pay a portion of the second phase costs of its required share of the engineering and construction expenses associated with the reconstruction of Mount Washington Road, including the payment of all other costs incidental or related thereto, and that to meet this appropriation, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Selectmen, is authorized to borrow said amount under and pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44, s.7(1), or pursuant to any other enabling authority, and to any other enabling authority, and to issue bonds or notes of the Town therefore. Any premium received upon the sale of any bonds or notes approved by this vote, less any such premium applied to the payment of the costs of issuance of such bonds or notes, may be applied to the payment of costs approved by this vote in accordance with Chapter 44, Section 20 of the General Laws, thereby reducing the amount authorized to be borrowed to pay such costs by a like amount.

The Finance Committee gave their endorsement.

A PowerPoint presentation was given by Rob Faulkner of CHA Design Group.

Voters directed numerous questions to Mr. Faulkner pertaining to engineering work done to date, bridge specifications, shovel readiness, estimated completed projects costs, 100 and 500-year flood plain specifications.

Selectman McGurn spoke to the good position the project is holding in the state TIP program.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a 92 - 16 paper, secret ballot vote.

ARTICLE 3: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sums spelled out below for bills unpaid in the previous fiscal year,

\$98.85 to reimburse members of the Conservation Commission

\$43.00 to pay for police uniform cleaning.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a unanimous show of hands vote.

ARTICLE 4: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Cemetery Perpetual Care Interest the sum of \$1,000 and from Hillside Cemetery Perpetual Care the sum of \$7,000 for repairs needed at both the Town House Hill and Hillside Cemeteries.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a unanimous show of hands vote.

ARTICLE 5: Motion made and seconded to create a new Section 18 within the Town's General Bylaws as follows:

In accordance with Massachusetts Acts of 2017, Chapter 55, Section 13, and pursuant to G.L. Chapter 64N, Section 3, the Town of Egremont hereby adopts a 3% gross sales tax applicable to marijuana retailers. The marijuana retailer shall pay the local sales tax imposed under this bylaw to the commissioner at the same time and in the same manner as the sales tax due to the commonwealth.

Short discussion ensued.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a majority show of hands vote.

ARTICLE 6: Motion made and seconded to transfer from Free Cash the sum of \$10,000 to pay for the costs of installing WiFi internet service at French Park.

The Finance Committee did not recommend.

Discussion ensued.

Vote taken: Motion defeated by a majority show of hands vote.

ARTICLE 7: Motion made and seconded to authorize the Selectboard to negotiate and execute an agreement with Fiber Connect LLC for broadband service to Egremont residents, said agreement not to exceed fifteen years, on such terms and conditions that the Selectboard deems appropriate for the provisions of broadband services to Egremont residents.

Jeffrey Lazarus of the Egremont Technology Committee spoke and answered questions about the status of Fiber Connect's build out.

Discussion ensued.

Vote taken: Motion passed by a majority show of hands vote.

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Juliette Haas
Town of Egremont
Town Clerk
9/20/2019