



Town of Holden Special Town Meeting Scheduled for Monday, October 17, 2022

The Town of Holden Special Town Meeting will be held on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium at the Wachusett Regional High School.

Holden, MA – On September 30, 2022, the Board of Selectmen voted to approve the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on October 17, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium of the Wachusett Regional High School. Voters will decide on the following articles:

1. **Easements for the Shrewsbury Street Improvement Project.** If passed, the Shrewsbury Street Doyle Road Improvement Project will consist of improvements to approximately a 1.15-mile section of the Shrewsbury Street Corridor, including portions of Main Street, Holden Street, Chapel Street and Doyle Road. Proposed improvements include the reconstruction of the existing traffic signals at the intersections of Shrewsbury Street with Main Street, and Chapel and Holden Streets, as well as construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Shrewsbury Street with Mount View Drive and Doyle Road. The project is programmed in the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program for Federal Fiscal Year 2023.

The project includes roadway widening and geometric improvements at the various intersections, along with traffic signal upgrades, safety improvements, and pedestrian and bicycle accommodations. The project also includes an 8-foot separated shared-use path that runs the full length of the project that will be a dedicated walking and bicycling path. Other enhancements include new storm drain improvements, granite curb, concrete sidewalks, and landscaping features.

To learn more about the project visit: <https://www.holdenma.gov/department-of-public-works/news/shrewsbury-street-and-doyle-road-improvement-project> or watch https://youtu.be/QBe8_5Xu0KU.

The Holden Finance Committee and Planning Board has voted to recommend approval for this article in the warrant.

2. **Debt Exclusion for new synthetic playing fields at Industrial Drive along with playing field/playground renovations at the Dawson Recreation Area.** If approved, the “Industrial Drive Athletic Complex and the Dawson Recreation Improvements” project will include a new soccer field complex, synthetic baseball field, playground, trail paths, and outdoor workout stations. The goal of the project will provide the Town with



expanded recreational capacity, promote outdoor activities, improve accessibility between adjacent recreational areas, and deliver flexible, multi-functional spaces for residents.

To learn more about the project visit:

<https://www.holdenma.gov/recreation/pages/industrial-drive-athletic-complex-and-dawson-recreation-improvements>

The Holden Finance Committee and Recreation Committee has voted to recommend approval for this article in the warrant.

- 3. Funding for a design and engineering study for an All-Inclusive Playground to replace the current playground located next to Holden Municipal Light Department.** If passed, the Inclusive Access Playground Committee will issue a request for proposals for the design and engineering study.

The Holden Finance Committee has voted to recommend approval for this article in the warrant.

“Like many communities across the Commonwealth, Holden has grown substantially over the years. This Special Town Meeting provides voters with an opportunity to enhance roadway safety for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists; as well as offer inclusive recreation opportunities for all of our community members. As we continue to recover from the pandemic, we are learning more about how the isolation impacted our physical and mental health. With more people out and about, we are seeing an increase in the use of our roadways, sidewalks and recreation areas, I encourage residents to take advantage of the opportunities presented in Special Town Meeting to build a safer, healthier and more resilient Holden,” **said Peter Lukes, Town Manager.**

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