

Annual Town Meeting (May 15, 2017)

Article 1 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 2 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 3 *Passed	Yes
Article 4 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 5 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 6 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 7 (Operating Budget) *Passed Unanimously	Yes - Upon careful review, it appears that the recommended operating budget will support the Town's commitment to providing excellent services to residents. Further, although the recommended allocation towards education (\$62,375,000) is not as high as the superintendent's initial request, it is a 3.26% increase to last year's budget, which, as the School Committee and superintendent acknowledges, is manageable.
Article 8 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 9 (Capital Budget) *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 10 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 11 *Defeated Unanimously	No
Article 12 (RE: Pipeline Resolution)	Yes - The West Boylston Lateral natural gas pipeline is something that I and many other residents in town are opposed to. It is potentially dangerous, and puts many families at risk. Decreased property values, and the potential that the pipeline can affect our water

<p>*Passed By Standing Vote, YES 120, NO 91</p>	<p>resources in town are among the reasons why I am against the pipeline. Although I understand that this Article is a resolution, I think it is a very important first step to let Town officials and others know that Shrewsbury is against the pipeline proposal, and further action should be taken.</p>
<p>Article 13 (RE: Artificial Turf at SHS)</p> <p>*Defeated By Standing Vote, YES 23, NO 171</p>	<p>No - Although I initially was leaning in favor of this Article, new information has arisen. The environmental impact that this turf field will have appears to be minimal and within acceptable limits. Also, the turf field's replacement costs, which was a concern of mine, will be paid for by money raised through the renting out of the field.</p>
<p>Article 14 (RE: Repeal of Plastic Bag Ban)</p> <p>*Defeated By Standing Vote, YES 61, NO 136</p>	<p>No - I was extremely proud when Shrewsbury became the first community in central Massachusetts to ban plastic bags from being used at retail establishments. Although it has been recognized that certain aspects of the by-law are not up-to-date, those errors can be easily fixed through an amendment process. Also, the bag ban will go into effect July 1st; before repealing a by-law, I think it is important to see the real effects it will have. A repeal of a by-law that was approved <i>last year</i> seems premature.</p>
<p>Article 15</p> <p>*Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 16</p> <p>*Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 17</p> <p>*Defeated By 2/3rds Majority</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Article 18</p> <p>*Passed By 2/3rds Majority</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 19</p> <p>*Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 20 (Moratorium on Rec. Marijuana Establishments)</p>	<p>No - Although I understand that the law that was passed in November by Massachusetts</p>

<p>*Passed By 2/3rds Majority</p>	<p>voters was large and complex, my initial thinking is that this moratorium will eventually lead to an outright ban, like other towns have already done. I respect that Shrewsbury residents voted against Q4 in November, but I think we should be careful in banning it in town, assuming that's where the Town decides to go towards.</p>
<p>Article 21 *Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 22 *Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 23 *Passed By Standing Vote, YES 128, NO 44</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Article 24</p> <p>*Passed By Standing Vote, YES 129, NO 42</p>	<p>No - Articles 23 and 24 regard zoning changes to the Route 20 Overlay District, more specifically the area that the old Edgemere drive-in resides in. Although I am in favor of adding a business to that area to make use of that land, I am concerned about the effects that 250 housing units will have on our Town's resources. Also, traffic in that area of town usually is nightmarish, and adding housing and business there will add on to the issue. Although the project proposal states that they will work to alleviate that traffic problems with expansion of the road and a new traffic light, I would like to see those occur first. Other projects around town are already adding more housing units, so I would like to have those projects completed, and the issues they may carry addressed first, before adding more.</p>
<p>Article 25 *Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 26 *Passed Unanimously</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Article 27 *Defeated</p>	<p>No</p>

Article 28 (Nuisance By-law) *Passed By 2/3rds Majority	Yes
Article 29 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 30 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 31 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 32 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 33 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 34 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 35 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 36 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 37 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 38 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 39 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 40 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 41 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 42 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 43 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 44 *Passed Unanimously	Yes

Article 45 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 46 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 47 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 48 *Passed Unanimously	Yes
Article 49 *Passed Unanimously	Yes