

2022 Special Town Meeting Minutes

To Tammy Lamphere, resident of the Town of Mercer in the County of Somerset,

GREETINGS:

In the name of the State of Maine you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the Town of Mercer qualified to vote in town affairs to meet at the Mercer Community Center in said Town of Mercer on Thursday, the 21st day of July, 2022, at 7:30 PM to transact the following business to wit:

ARTICLE 1: To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting. Town Clerk Nancy Gove asked for nominations. Philip Curtis was nominated and seconded. Motion to cease nominations. Philip Curtis was elected as Moderator to preside over this meeting. Town Clerk Gove swore in the moderator.

ARTICLE 2: Shall an ordinance entitled Mercer Moratorium Ordinance Regarding Commercial Solar Facilities be enacted? A motion to approve was made and seconded. Discussion. Joel Hooper made a motion to increase the kilowatt hours of electricity generated to 100 kw. Moderator ruled this motion out of order. Town Clerk Gove explained that the proposed ordinance could not be amended, that should have happened at the public hearing. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 3: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to appropriate from Fund Balance an amount to cover any overages in the Transfer Station budget in the event that this department is over budget at year end. A motion to approve was made and seconded. Discussion. Potential overages may result from additional increase in fees to Waste Management contract effective 7/1/22. Using contingency was suggested. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 4: To see if the Town will clarify/create an Appeals Board, to authorize the Select Board to appoint it's members, to set the number of members to three, to set the term to three years, and to stagger the terms as follows: one member for an initial one-year term, one member for an initial two-year term and one member for an initial three-year term. A motion to approved was made and seconded. Discussion. Town Clerk Gove could not find any authority to have an Appeals Board from the date of the Shoreland Zoning Ordinance forward. Motion carried.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to apply for a general obligation bond through the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the Spring 2023 application process to do some road construction projects in the Town of Mercer, amount of the bond will not exceed \$1,000,000. A motion to approve was made and seconded. Discussion. Bob Burr, chairman of budget committee gave a brief presentation on borrowing. Main concern was whether this article approves the bond or approves applying for the bond. A motion was made

and seconded to amend the article to add the following “with final plan to be approved or accepted at a future Town Meeting”. Amended motion failed. More discussion. The paving quote was received by email. The amount of the quote was in excess of \$1.5 million. Motion failed.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectboard to pursue creating a housing subdivision of approximately 40 acres of the Town Forest, tax map 10, lots 16 and 17. A motion to approve was made and seconded. Discussion. Motion failed.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Gove
Town Clerk

Attested to be a true copy.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Gove". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the text "Attested to be a true copy."