

**CHRISTOPHER G. MEHNE**  
Town Moderator

TOV  
MAS



JRY  
5398

8 Wiltshire Drive  
Shrewsbury, MA 01545  
Telephone: 508-517-2333  
chrismehne@townisp.com

## **2015 TOWN MEETING**

## **MEMBER SURVEY**

**Town Meeting is the legislative body of Shrewsbury's town government. Our Annual and Special Town Meetings provide a forum for the discussion of, and voting on, our system of Bylaws, our operating, capital and school budgets, infrastructure improvements, special appropriations, citizen petition articles and many other elements of our town's operations.**

**The 240 Town Meeting Members who are elected to represent their neighbors in Shrewsbury's ten precincts have an obligation to attend and participate in Town Meeting. A recent decline in both attendance at Town Meeting and candidates for Town Meeting Member seats is concerning to those of us involved in town government. This survey is intended to help us determine whether any aspect of Town Meeting is in need of change, and to solicit ideas for the improvement of our Town Meeting system.**

**PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY. Although your name, precinct number and contact information are requested, you may remain anonymous if you wish to do so. Feel free to attach additional pages if you need more space to provide your answers and ideas.**

**PLEASE RETURN THE COMPLETED SURVEY TO ME BY MAIL, EMAIL OR FAX (MY CONTACT INFORMATION IS ABOVE) OR BY DROPPING THE SURVEY OFF AT THE TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE, 100 MAPLE AVENUE. ALL RESPONSES SHOULD BE SENT BY JUNE 30, 2015 IN ORDER TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUMMARY OF THE RESPONSES, WHICH WILL BE POSTED ON THE TOWN WEBSITE.**

**Thank you very much for your participation in this survey, and for your attendance at Town Meeting!**

## **2015 TOWN MEETING SURVEY**

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Precinct:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**[Note: the above information is requested but not required]**

**1. How many years have you served as a Town Meeting Member?** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. How often do you attend Town Meeting ?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ **Always**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Almost always**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Sometimes**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Rarely**
- \_\_\_\_\_ **Never**

**If your answer is other than “Always,” please explain:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3. Do you believe that attendance at Town Meeting is an obligation of all Town Meeting Members?** \_\_\_\_\_ **If not, please explain:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. Do you solicit opinions from other residents in your precinct on issues discussed at Town Meeting?** \_\_\_\_\_ **Do residents of your precinct contact you?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Please explain why or why not:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**5. What do you like about Town Meeting?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

---

6. What do you dislike about Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_

---

7. Are you satisfied with the date, time and location of Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

8. Are you satisfied with the arrangement of the room for Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_  
If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

9. Are you satisfied with the materials provided for your review prior to Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

10. Are you satisfied with the Moderator's explanation of the procedural rules for Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

11. Are you satisfied with the opportunity and rules for Town Meeting Members to speak at Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

12. Are you satisfied with the opportunity and rules for formal presentations by sponsors and opponents of Warrant articles at Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If not, what changes would you suggest? \_\_\_\_\_

---

13. Are you satisfied with the use of *Cushing's Manual of Parliamentary Practice* as the official procedural guide for Shrewsbury's Town Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_ If not,

what procedural guide would you suggest (e.g., *Robert's Rules of Order*; *Town Meeting Time*; *Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure*; etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

14. Would you be interested in establishing a "Town Meeting Member Association" to meet periodically and suggest ways to improve Town Meeting and communications about Town Meeting to Shrewsbury residents? \_\_\_\_\_  
If "Yes," would you be interested in organizing and/or participating in such an Association? \_\_\_\_\_

15. Do you have any other comments or suggestions regarding Town Meeting? Please use additional sheets if necessary. \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED SURVEY BY ANY OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:**

**Email:** [cmehne@bowditch.com](mailto:cmehne@bowditch.com) OR [chrismehne@townisp.com](mailto:chrismehne@townisp.com)

**Fax:** 508-929-3030 (no cover sheet necessary)

**Mail:** Chris Mehne, 8 Wiltshire Drive, Shrewsbury, MA 01545

**Hand delivery:** Town Clerk, Municipal Office Building, 100 Maple Avenue

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THIS SURVEY!**