

**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE
SPECIAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT**



**STURBRIDGE TOWN HALL, 308 MAIN STREET
MONDAY, JULY 27, 2015 @ 7:00 P.M.**

**ARTICLE 31
AUTHORIZATION TO ENTER INTO ENERGY AGREEMENT
FOR MORE THAN 3 YEARS**

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with NextSun or another similar energy company for the purchase of net metering credits generated by a solar renewable energy facility with a term of up to 20 years (from the date of commercial operation of such facility) on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions and execute such other instruments and agreements as may be necessary or appropriate to implement and administer such agreement; or to act in relation thereto.

Sponsor: Board of Selectmen

RECOMMENDATION OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with NextSun for the purchase of net metering credits generated by a solar renewable energy facility for a term of three years but not to exceed twenty years (from the date of commercial operation of such facility) on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions and execute such other instruments and agreements as may be necessary or appropriate to implement and administer such agreement. Voted 6-0.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

That the Town vote to approve the article as written. Voted 5-0.

Summary: This article was erroneously excluded from the Annual Town Meeting in June. The Board of Selectmen are seeking authorization to enter into an extended agreement of up to 20 years with an energy company to purchase 'net metering credits', essentially providing a financial benefit to the Town estimated to be in excess of \$1 million over the term of the extended agreement. Town Meeting must approve any agreements longer than 3 years per Mass. General Law.

VOTE OF THE TOWN MEETING: There was a substitute motion made by Kathy Neal to insert "commencement of" into the wording which would now read, "*That the Town vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into an agreement with NextSun for the purchase of net metering credits generated by a solar renewable energy facility for a term of three years but not to exceed twenty years (from the date of commencement of commercial operation of such facility) on such terms and conditions, and for such consideration, as the Board of Selectmen deems in the best interest of the Town, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to take such actions and execute such other instruments and agreements as may be necessary or appropriate to implement and administer such agreement.*" This motion was seconded and the vote of the Town Meeting was unanimous in approving the article as amended as declared by the Moderator.