

**April 29, 2019**  
**Public Hearing on Reasons for May 6 Special Town Meeting**

**Select Board Members:** William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott, Carol Vincelette

**Also Present:** Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Gil Richardson, Moderator; Joe Boutin, Jr., road contractor; Joe Boutin, III, School Board Chairman; and Frederick Ulery.

The public hearing on the reasons for the Special Town Meeting noticed for May 6, 2019 was called to order at 6:15 PM.

Selectboard Chairman Darcy stated that a Special Town Meeting was required because the State Department of Revenue Administration (DRA) believed the budget posted 14 days before the Town Meeting was procedurally deficient because it was not on a certified DRA form MS-636. The budget posted was the same two page one appearing in the Annual Report. The DRA MS-636 form differs from the posted budget and the one in the Annual Report in that it contains more pages and numerous line items irrelevant to the Town of Benton, such as water, sewer, recreation, etc. In any case, henceforth the MS-636 will be the vehicle for posting our budgets in the future. The sole question for the Special Town Meeting will be whether to ratify the actions taken at the March 12, 2019 annual Town Meeting even though the DRA posting requirements were not met. There was some discussion which followed.

The hearing was closed at 6:21 PM.