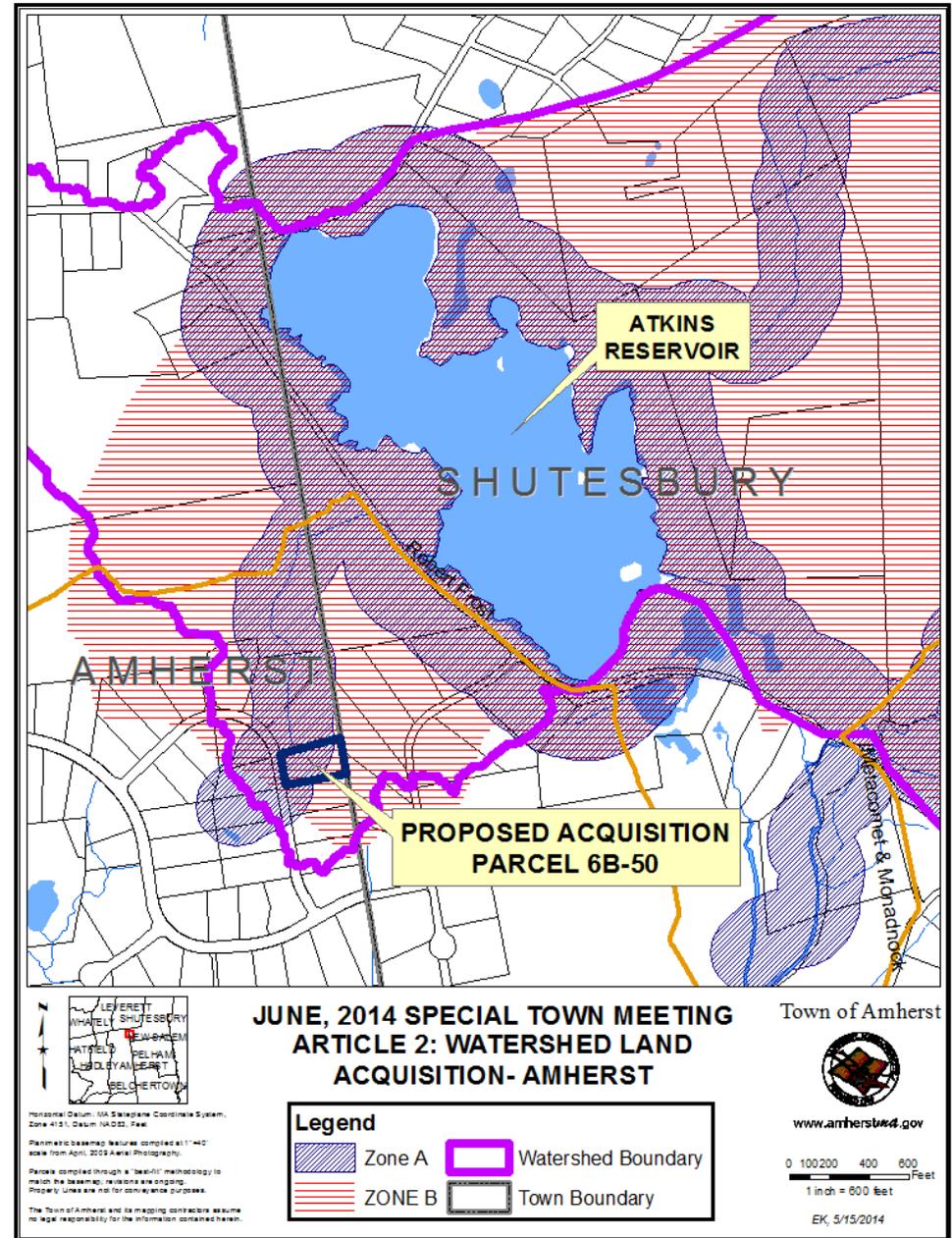


ARTICLE 3. Watershed Land Acquisition, Amherst

This article authorizes the purchase of a 1.15-acre house lot near the Atkins Reservoir. The purchase price is \$120,000. The Town of Amherst has applied for a state Drinking Water Supply Protection grant to provide reimbursement for up to 50% of the purchase price. Due to the relatively low cost of this acquisition, the property will be acquired with or without grant money if Town Meeting approves this article.

Key factors:

- The Atkins Reservoir provides approximately 1/3rd of Amherst's drinking water supply and is therefore a critical water resource.
- Parcel is located approximately 1,000 feet from the Atkins Reservoir.
- As shown on the map, the parcel is located within the Zone A/B surface water supply protection areas. These are the most critical zones to protect because of their close proximity to the surface water supply source.
- There is a significant threat of development to this property:
 - Current owner has initiated plans to build.
 - Percolation tests have been performed and septic system design submitted to Health Department.



ARTICLE 4. Watershed Land Acquisition- Shutesbury

This article authorizes the purchase of approximately 24 acres of land close to the Atkins Reservoir. The purchase price is \$380,000. The Town of Amherst has applied for a state Drinking Water Supply Protection grant to reimburse up to 50% of the purchase price, and the property will only be purchased if we are awarded the grant.

Key factors:

- The Atkins Reservoir provides approximately 1/3rd of Amherst's drinking water supply and is therefore a critical water resource.
- The property consists of 3 house lots and approximately 20 acres of woodland.
- As shown on the map, the property is located within the Zone A/B surface water supply protection areas. These are the most critical zones to protect because of their close proximity to the surface water supply source.
- There is a significant threat of development to this property:
 - Current owner is a motivated seller.
 - Percolation tests for septic systems have been performed.
 - Owner is in ongoing discussions with Shutesbury Planning Board to ensure conformance with local regulations.

