

Warrant Article Questionnaire
Non Standard Town Agency Articles

Section III – Questions with Response Boxes – To Be Completed By Petition Sponsor

Article # 19	Date Form Completed: 2/26/2017
Article Title: Amend By-Law Article 24 Regarding Procedure for Appointment of Fire Chief	
Sponsor Name: Board of Selectmen	Email: selectmen@natickma.org

Question	Question
1	Provide the article motion exactly as it will appear in the Finance Committee Recommendation Book and presented to Town Meeting for action.
Response	See attached DRAFT motion. Note that this Article received a Favorable recommendation by the Board of Selectmen at their meeting of February 12. The final motion was approved at their meeting on February 26th.
2	At a summary level and very clearly, what is the proposed purpose and objective of this Warrant Article and the accompanying Motion?
Response	Members of the Board of Selectmen believe that there should be some flexibility built into the timelines associated with the Fire Chief screening and selection processes.
3	Has this article or one of a very similar scope and substance been on a previous Warrant Article and what has been the actions taken by Finance Committee, other Boards or Committees and Town Meeting?
Response	Yes. Article 22 of 2017 FTM pertaining to the Town Administrator Appointment/ Screening Committee Process received a favorable action vote by town meeting giving the Board of Selectmen authority to extend the screening committee process for up to 30 days.
4	Why is it required for the Town of Natick and for the Town Agency sponsor(s)?
Response	The proposed By-Law amendments are not required, per se, but are advisable to ensure that the search and selection processes do not exceed stipulated timelines and therefore result in a violation of the By-Law. During the screening committee's work, a major weather event could cause cancellation of interviews, and rescheduling candidates, committee members, and consulting team could result in substantial delay. During the recently completed Fire Chief Screening Committee process out of town work and the holiday season prevented some screening committee members from observing the assessment center activities, and/or vote his or her selection.

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	During the recent Fire Chief Screening process, several screening committee members were not available to comment on the candidates strength and weaknesses to individual Selectmen due to out of town holiday season plans and/or work schedules.
5	Does this article require funding, how much, from what source of funds and under whose authority will the appropriation be managed and spent?
Response	No funding required
6	Does this article act in any way in concert with, in support of, or to extend any prior action of Natick Town Meeting, Massachusetts General Laws or CMR's or other such legislation or actions? Does this article seek to amend, rescind or otherwise change any prior action of Natick Town Meeting?
Response	Yes, in that this article proposes to amend the By-Laws.
7	How does the proposed motion (and implementation) fit with the relevant Town Bylaws, financial and capital plan, comprehensive Master Plan, and community values as well as relevant state laws and regulations?
Response	If the proposed motion is approved, it would result in an amendment to the By-Laws.
8	Who are the critical participants in executing the effort envisioned by the article motion?
Response	Approval of this proposed By-Law amendment would not result in needed action or effort.
9	What steps and communication has the sponsor attempted to assure that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interested parties were notified in a timely way and had a chance to participate in the process • Appropriate Town Boards & Committees were consulted • Required public hearings were held
Response	The proposal really only affects the Board of Selectmen and any future Fire Chief Screening Committee.
10	Since submitting the article have you identified issues that weren't initially considered in the development of the proposal?

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Response	No
11	If this Warrant Article is not approved by Town Meeting what are the consequences to the Town and to the sponsor(s)? Please be specific on both financial and other consequences?
Response	The flexibility in the Fire Chief screening and selection processes envisioned by the Board of Selectmen would not be made available.