

ARTICLE 23

Amend By-law Regulating Use of Motion for the Previous Question (Paul Connolly et al)

To see if the Town will vote to amend the rule related to use of the motion for the previous question at Town Meeting which supposedly is intended to insure sufficient discussion before voting but too often is being used by a few to unreasonably extend repetitious discussion when most at Town Meeting wish to proceed with the vote; and, specifically, to amend the Town of Natick By-Laws, Article 3, Section 11 Motion for the Previous Question as follows:

Delete the existing paragraph:

The motion for the previous question shall not be entertained by the Moderator if three or more persons are seeking recognition who have not previously spoken to the question.

Insert the following two paragraphs:

The motion for the previous question is a subsidiary motion used to request the Moderator to stop debate on the immediately pending motion and proceed with the vote on that motion.

The motion for the previous question is not in order when there has been insufficient opportunity, as determined by the Moderator, for persons to ask questions and obtain information pertaining to the immediately pending motion; or when use of the motion could effectively result in never even considering amendments or other subsidiary motions that the Moderator expects to be introduced.