

Selectmen Concerns

Inspired by the report Enhancing Local Democracy in MetroWest that followed a comprehensive 2016 MAPC comprehensive review of governance structure and civic participation levels in the the nine communities that make up the MetroWest Regional Collaborative which include Ashland, Framingham, Holliston, Marlborough, Natick, Southborough, Wayland, Wellesley, and Weston I propose

1. Effective October 15, 2018, Town Hall close at 11:00 p.m. This may be accomplished by policy.

And then initially by agreement and in the future by a bylaw

2. I propose that Town Agencies conclude public meeting issues at 10:30 p.m. with the exception of scheduling and or for public health or safety emergencies.

In conclusion, I believe the later hours don't serve anyone citizen, volunteer, staff or responsible review and discussion of issues. We are precluding lots of people from participating. We will force boards to figure out that they need to be more efficient. It is not right that meetings go as late as they do. The Town Administrator can set the hours. We can take the lead and declare policy.

We can be real leaders on the issue of promoting citizen participation.

We can be a model. We can challenge boards to be more efficient.

 9/17/2018