

## Charter Article 2 Legislative Branch

### Motion A : Change in Size of Representative Town Meeting – *pending further analysis*

### Motion B: Town Meeting Vacancies

#### Section 2-6 Vacancies

- (c) **List of Persons Eligible to Fill Vacancies** - Following each town election, the town clerk shall prepare\_ for each precinct a list of persons who received votes for town meeting member, but who were not elected. Persons on each list shall be listed in descending order of votes received. The town clerk shall maintain each list until the next town election, removing from each list the names of persons (1) who are appointed to fill vacancies, (2) who choose not to accept appointment when offered or (3) who are no longer eligible to be town meeting members. The lists so prepared and maintained shall at all times be subject to the review and approval of the Town Moderator or the Town Moderator's designee. The Town Moderator may prepare and maintain such lists in the event of failure of the Town Clerk to prepare and maintain the same on a timely basis.
- (d) **Filling of Vacancies** - Whenever a vacancy has been declared to exist either (1) by a letter of resignation filed with the town clerk, or (2) by the issuance of a certificate from the town clerk that such person has died or has removed from the town, or has failed to take the oath of office, or (3) there is a failure to elect a town meeting member, such vacancy shall be filled until the next town election from the list of persons eligible to fill vacancies in the precinct. The Town Moderator ~~town clerk~~ shall make appointments in accordance with the descending ordering of names on the lists. If necessary to resolve ties, the Town Moderator ~~town clerk~~ shall appoint a town meeting member to fill a vacancy by a lottery among those tied. Any such lottery shall be conducted at a time and place open to the public.

In the event of a failure to appoint a person to fill a vacancy in a position of town meeting member, or the failure of a person so appointed to qualify, the Town Moderator ~~town clerk~~ shall schedule a caucus among the then current town meeting members in the precinct in question for the purpose of selecting a person to fill the vacant town meeting member position. Any such caucus shall be conducted at a time and place open to the public. The Town Moderator ~~town clerk~~ shall provide written notice of the date, time and location of such caucus to the then current town meeting members in the precinct in question, at least forty-eight hours (48) hours prior to such caucus, except where such forty-eight (48) hours is not possible due to town meeting scheduling requirements.

Notice of such caucus shall be posted on the Natick Town Hall bulletin board, and shall be posted on the Town of Natick website, in each event at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to such caucus, except where such forty-eight (48) hours notice is not possible due to town meeting scheduling requirements.

The Town Moderator ~~town clerk~~ or the Town Moderator's ~~town clerk~~'s designee shall preside over such caucus. The eligible candidate who resides in the precinct in question and who receives the

highest number of votes at such caucus shall serve as a town meeting member until the next annual town election.

## Motion C: Town Meeting Quorum

### Section 2-12 Proceedings of Town Meetings

**Quorum** — Fifty percent plus one of the total of ~~Ninety-one~~ the number of representative town meeting members, established in Section 2-2, less ii) any vacancies shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of all business to come before the town meeting, but a lesser number may meet and adjourn from time to time, but no town meeting shall adjourn over the date of an election for town meeting members.

## Motion D: Town Meeting Warrants

### Section 2-11 Town Meeting Warrants

- (b) **Initiation of Articles** - The Select Board shall receive insert in the warrant all petitions which are addressed to and received by it and which request the submission of particular subject matter to the representative town meeting and which are filed by: (1) any elected town officer, (2) any eligible multiple member body, acting by a majority of its members, (3) any ten or more registered voters of the town for any annual town meeting and any one hundred or more registered voters of the town for any special town meeting as detailed in Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 39, Section 10, (4) such other persons or agencies as may be authorized by law, or by by-law. All such requests for submission of matters shall be in writing, but they shall not be required to conform to any particular style or form. The Select Board shall within fourteen days of receipt of a proposed zoning by-law amendment submit the same to the planning board for review.

### And Article 7 Section 7 Definitions

(g) **Multiple Member Body** - The words "multiple member body" shall mean any town body consisting of two or more persons, whether elected, appointed, or otherwise constituted, but not to include the representative town meeting. An "eligible multiple member body" is any existing multiple member body that has been i) created by and ii) given a charge of powers, duties and/or responsibilities in statute, charter, bylaw or vote of town meeting.

## Motion E:

### Section 2-10 Participation by Non-Town Meeting Members

- (a) **Representatives of Town Agencies** — The Town Moderator may require and schedule a A designated representative of each town agency to shall attend any specific or all sessions of the representative town meeting for the purpose of providing the town meeting members with information pertinent to warrant articles concerning such town agencies. The Town Moderator may

require such attendance to be in the same manner as attendance by town meeting members. If any such person is deterred by illness or other reasonable cause from attending, such person or the Town Moderator ~~he~~ shall designate a deputy to attend in his place. The representative town meeting may by bylaw establish procedures and requirements concerning remote accessibility of, contact for or participation by representatives from any town agency for the purposes of providing pertinent information to town meeting members. All representatives of town agencies, including any who may not be town residents, shall, during the consideration of articles affecting said agencies, have the same right to speak as a town meeting member, but shall have no right to make motions, or to vote. Nothing in this section shall prevent the Select Board, the School Committee, other elected multiple member body, the town administrator or the school superintendent from directing persons under their supervision or appointive control to attend any session of representative town meeting.