

ARTICLE 22: CHANGE DATE THAT ELECTED TOWN OFFICIALS TAKE OFFICE

Proposed by: Board of Selectmen

To determine whether the Town will vote to authorize the Board of Selectmen to petition the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to adopt a special act establishing the date that Town officials elected at the annual town election take office as the date of adjournment of the annual town meeting immediately following said election.

FINANCE COMMITTEE COMMENTS: Wayland traditionally holds its town elections on a Tuesday before Town Meeting convenes and successful candidates assume office immediately. This means that board members may be new to their positions for annual town meeting.

Passage of this article instructs the Board of Selectmen to petition the legislature to set the date of elected officials taking office as the conclusion of annual town meeting. This will result in a smooth transition for newly elected or appointed members to begin their service to the town in an orderly time frame. This allows existing members to finish their work for Town Meeting with an unhurried and orderly transition for incoming members.

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR: This will provide a smooth, orderly transition for Board and/or Commission members to begin their service to the town.

ARGUMENTS OPPOSED: The Finance Committee is not aware of any.

RECOMMENDATION: The Finance Committee recommends approval. Vote 6-0.

QUANTUM OF VOTE: Majority – see Massachusetts Constitution Amendment Article 2, Section 8(1).

For more information about this article, contact Fred Turkington, Town Administrator, at (508) 358-3620, or email fturkington@wayland.ma.us.
