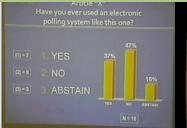
# **Article 22 Save Town Meeting**









## Electronic KeyPad Voting

- Counts 2,000 votes in 5 seconds flat with precision and security.
- Eliminates human error voice & teller voting. Gives accuracy back.
- Saves your precious time. Saves your money and the towns money.

#### www.ElectronicVoting.info

**E**lectronic keypad voting is a trusted way to count



votes rapidly, accurately, securely and privately. This technology is used world-wide in universities, corporations, share-holders meetings, conventions, world-

wide economic forums, state and federal legislatures and this technology is used in our own **Wayland Public School** system.

Town meeting will spend less time voting, more time debating and doing the business of our town. Imagine the Moderator calling for a vote by opening up a one minute window of time. During that window you will vote and you can change your mind as many times as you wish but your last vote is your one and only counted vote. When the voting windows closes, the results are clearly displayed on a screen as a simple chart as Yays, Nays and Abstentions. Actual votes and percentages are displayed with accuracy plus state-of-the-art security. No illegal votes are allowed because only registered voters will get keypads.

Electronic voting not only Saves Wayland Town Meeting but it pays us back in time saved. Your precious time, your childcare expense and less nights at town meeting saves the town money. Westwood Massachusetts is interested in **town sharing** with Wayland (see the reverse side).

System cost? Over 5 years \$179K and that includes maintenance plus warranty. Thats \$2 per voter per town meeting per year. \$20 per voter over 5 years. How much for your time? Or for your child-care?



## Privacy in your seat.

Open town meeting means we represent ourselves. It does not mean other people get to know our business. Privacy at town

meeting is legal but, until now, not time practical with a paper ballot system. We no longer have to give up our privacy for expediency. Many people are intimidated when they must show how they vote. Some people won't even come to town meeting for this reason. With Electronic Voting you vote with your hearts, minds and with your pocketbooks!

#### Town Sharing can cut our costs in half!



If you vote for Electronic keypad voting you will be saving Wayland's traditional town meeting now 370 years old. What you will accomplish is the preservation our 17th century town meeting tradition while bringing it into the 21st century with proven, trusted, high technology voting equipment. **Voting will be fast, very fast. Voting will be accurate**, orders of magnitude more accurate than our shouting or standing systems of manual teller counting. Our town meeting will come alive with more participation, less contention and this technology opens the doors to faster checkin and check-out processes. Less work for our town clerk in her manual data entry process after each town meeting.

The Board of Selectmen of Westwood Massachusetts, through their town administrator **Michael A Jaillet** has written us a memo describing Westwood's interest in town sharing electronic voting equipment. This can cut our mutual costs in half! **The letter below speaks for itself**.



Philip N. Shapiro, Chairman Patrick J. Ahearn, Clerk Nancy C. Hyde, Third Member TOWN OF WESTWOOD COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Michael A. Jaillet, Town Administrator Pamela Dukeman, Finance Director Ellen M. Hurley, Executive Assistant

Dear Mr. Alan Reiss,

As you requested this letter is an expression of the Town of Westwood's interest in consideration of the incorporation of an E-Voting system for Town Meetings.

Westwood has become aware of the possibility of introducing new technology into Town Meeting voting that we believe would increase the accuracy, efficiency and privacy of town meeting votes and in particular, standing counted votes. We have explored a couple of different firms that provides such technology through either rentals or purchase. Since Westwood, like Wayland, is an Open Town Meeting, we have found that the rental approach would require us to rent as many as 2,000 units in order to be sure that we meet the demand for a large turnout, however rare that is. It is our opinion that it would be more cost effective to find other communities to jointly purchase a set of instruments that could be shared. In addition, there are other elements including the antennas that provide wireless connection for the devices and scanners that would register each unit with an attending voter in order to ensure that all units are returned at the end of each Town Meeting.

Like Wayland, we feel that the confidential voting that these such instruments provide would significantly improve the general perception as people are able to vote their conscience and, as a result, would have a positive effect on voter turnout. In a sense, this new technology could result in Town Meeting actually achieving the myth that it is the purest form of democracy.

As you know, most of this technology and software has not been specifically developed for the New England Town Meeting format, we believe, as you do, that a joint effort on the part of several New England Communities, might encourage one or more of these providers to refine a software and instruments that specifically address and further refine the particular needs of a Town Meeting.

Westwood is encouraged that there are other communities like Wayland that are giving serious consideration to the introduction of new technology that can bring our Town Meeting legislative process into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Best of Luck in your efforts,

Michael A. Jaillet Town Administrator

### With your vote, it starts to save town meeting in one year.

By passing article 22 you will begin a process that will take one year. A committee will be assembled to integrate electronic voting equipment into New England Town Meeting. The check-in process, the check-out process. Integration into the state voter system. Working with Westwood or other interested towns and the co-selection of a suitable yendor.

An audit of the system would be performed and a set of best practices would be put into place.

All of these efforts are worthwhile because they preserve an institution which is now in its 4th century and only practiced by 6 American states.

New England Town Meeting is known around the world for its ability to bring the purest form of democracy to each and every voter. Now each voter can vote fast, accurately, securely, confidently and privately. Pure democracy at town meeting has arrived.

Our ancestors would have been jealous!