

Article 39 - Because the Town has not yet obtained the special legislation that is necessary to authorize the Town to adopt the by-law voted under Article 39 regarding the order of candidates on the Town election ballots, we place this by-law on “hold” pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32 pending receipt of the requested special legislation.

I. Summary of Article 39

Under Article 39 the Town voted to: (1) amend the Town by-laws to allow the order of candidates on the Town election ballot to be determined by a random drawing conducted by the Town Clerk and (2) request that the Board of Selectmen petition the General Court for a special act authorizing the by-law.

II. The Attorney General’s By-Law Review Process

Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, the Attorney General must review by-laws within 90 days of the town clerk’s submission of “adequate proof that all of the procedural requirements for the adoption of such by-law have been complied with.” Because the by-law adopted under Article 39 is dependent on the Town obtaining the special legislation referenced in the Article, the Town has not yet submitted all the documents necessary for us to complete our review. Therefore, pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, we place the by-law adopted under Articles 39 on “hold.” Once we receive confirmation that the special legislation has been fully approved, we will commence our review of the by-laws. Please feel free to contact this Office with any questions.