

**Dear Residents:**

**At Town Meeting, we come together as a community to debate and vote on budgets, capital projects, general and zoning bylaws, and a broad variety of citizen petitions. The collective decisions we make at Town Meeting shape the quality of life that makes Lincoln the unique place we all cherish. *To maintain a robust and effective Town government, it is wise to periodically review and evaluate Town Meeting.* The Select Board and Town Moderator are beginning a process to assess resident viewpoints about the current procedures for our Town Meetings. This work will be conducted with respect for the tradition and norms that have served Lincoln well since the first Town Meeting in April 1754, a commitment to equity, and with recognition that Town Meeting should continue to adapt to the needs and desires of Lincoln's current residents.**

**The process to examine current procedures and to determine whether there is a desire for modifications will begin with a pair of kick-off sessions on September 16, 2024. Residents will be invited to share thoughts about the processes leading up to Town Meeting and the protocols of the meeting itself. Feedback from these sessions will help us identify what is working well, what needs improvement, and the key issues that our soon-to-be appointed Town Meeting Study Committee (TMSC) should consider.**

***Whether you are new to Town or a long-time resident, have never been to Town Meeting or are a long-time attendee, we welcome and urge your participation!!! The long-term effectiveness of Town Meeting hinges on the representation of ALL viewpoints.***

**The September 16<sup>th</sup> Kick-off Forum is being offered in two separate sessions, a fully virtual morning session at 8:00AM and an in-person evening session at 7:00PM in the Learning Commons at the Lincoln School. Those who are unable to attend are welcome to e-mail comments: [TMSC@lincolntown.org](mailto:TMSC@lincolntown.org). For more information about the TMSC and the Kick-off Forums, please see the Town's website: <https://www.lincolntown.org/1509/Town-Meeting-Study-Committee>.**

**We look forward to hearing your thoughts.**

**Sincerely,**

**Kim Bodnar, *Chair*   Sarah Cannon Holden, *Town Moderator*   Timothy S. Higgins, *Town Administrator*  
Jennifer Glass  
Jim Hutchinson  
*Select Board***

**Lincoln Select Board  
Town Moderator  
16 Lincoln Road  
Lincoln, MA 01773**

Pre-Sorted  
Standard  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
Lincoln, MA  
Permit #11

ECR-WSS

Postal Patron

Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773

# Let's Talk About Town Meeting!

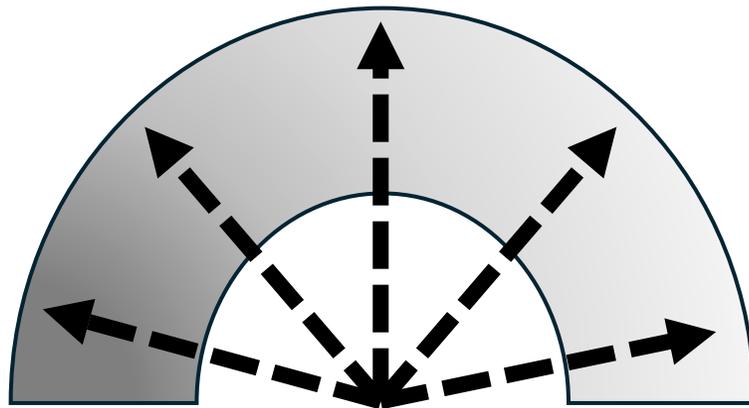
Do you want to learn more about it?

Do you love it just the way it is?

Would you like to see major changes?

What are *your* recommendations?

How do changes get made? Town? State?



Stay the  
Same

Make Big  
Changes

***Please join us at a  
Kick-Off Forum on September 16<sup>th</sup>!***

**8:00AM – virtual forum via Zoom**

Link To Meeting can be found at: [www.lincolntown.org/1509/Town-Meeting-Study-Committee](http://www.lincolntown.org/1509/Town-Meeting-Study-Committee)

**7:00PM – in person forum in the Lincoln  
School Learning Commons**

PURPOSES:

- Understand community opinions about the processes leading up to Town Meeting and how the Meeting is structured.
- Identify issues residents think the Town Meeting Study Committee (TMSC) should address.

NEXT STEPS:

- **September 30<sup>th</sup>**: Select Board finalizes scope of the TMSC Committee's work.
- **October 1<sup>st</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>**: Interested residents apply to serve on TMSC. (contact Peggy at [elderp@lincolntown.org](mailto:elderp@lincolntown.org))
- **October 21<sup>st</sup>**: Select Board appoints TMSC Committee