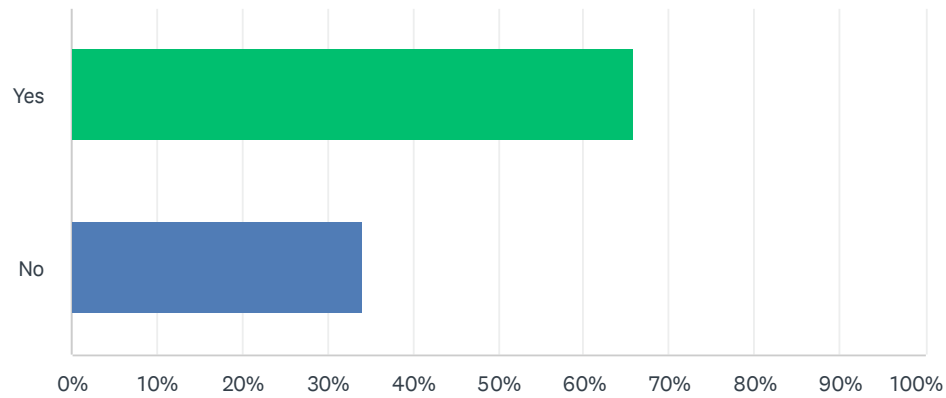


Q1 Did you attend the 2023 Special Town Meeting on October 10th?

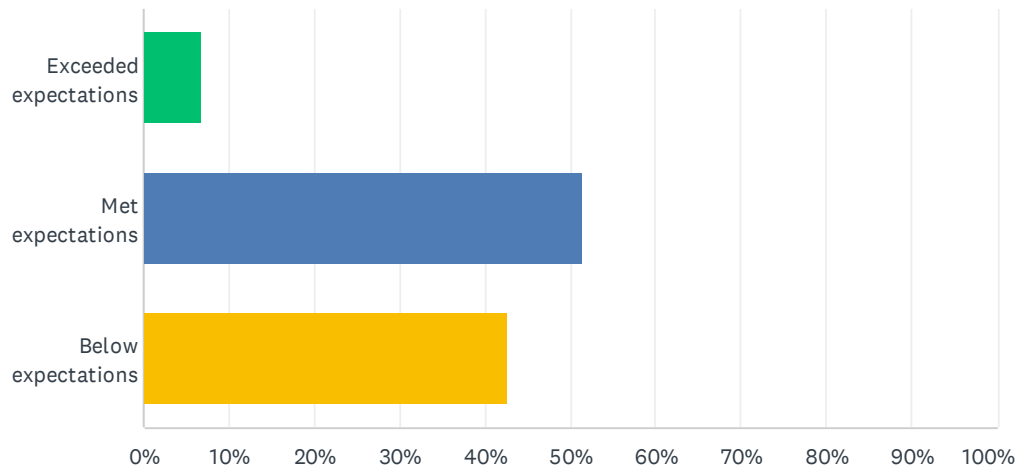
Answered: 132 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	65.91%	87
No	34.09%	45
Total Respondents: 132		

Q2 How would you rate your experience at the Special Town Meeting?

Answered: 103 Skipped: 29



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Exceeded expectations	6.80%	7
Met expectations	51.46%	53
Below expectations	42.72%	44
Total Respondents: 103		

Q3 What do you think should be improved at a future Town Meeting?

Answered: 117 Skipped: 15

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	<p>Things went very wrong at voter check in, resulting in the meeting start time being delayed by 50 minutes. I see a number of contributing factors: - Larger than normal attendance - A new electronic registration system - I, at least, did not receive any advance warning to expect different procedures at this meeting. Please educate voters ahead of such changes. - A novice and noisy crowd which contained many voters that do not often attend town meeting and were unfamiliar with the check-in procedures - Registrars that were having a lot of difficulty hearing the names of the voters, resulting in many tries to find a voter's name - The electronic system required the registrar to type parts of the voter's last and first names. This proved much slower than the old paper method where the registrar could just scan down the page to find the voter's info. We must improve the procedures around voter check in. I have attended most Annual and Special Town Meetings in Maynard in the past 10 years. The long delay to check in all of the registered voters was unprecedented in my experience. The last meeting I recall with such a large turnout was the vote to fund the new High School, but there was not such a bottleneck at registration. What to do in response to a large turnout is a choice. Suggestion: If we don't have official policies on how to handle large crowds at Town Meeting, we need to form them. It seemed like we were improvising a policy on the spot. I don't want to see such a large delay to the meeting start time again. Suggestion: The meeting should start as scheduled (or at most 10 minutes later) and latecomers can join when they are able. If they miss part of the meeting, then they will learn to come earlier the next time. If the policy is publicized before the meeting (say, in the warrant), then I feel this would be fair. Town Moderator stated that there were many people who had been in line by 7:00 PM (the scheduled start time) who had not yet been registered even 20 minutes later. Suggestion: We should declare and publicize an earlier cut off. Say, the meeting start will only be delayed until all people in line by 10 minutes before the scheduled start time have had time to register. Before the meeting began, Town Moderator stated that total attendance could be an estimated 1200 people (counting those checked in and those still in line), but the highest number of ballots cast on any one article was 762 (on Article 3). So either the estimate was off by 400 people or 400 people gave up and left. Neither is a good outcome. Suggestion: Reduce verbal communication during check in. Allow voters to use some form of written information. If a voter could display a written name, then the registrar could read it and receive accurate information more quickly. Even better, allow voters to identify themselves directly to the electronic system, say with a barcode or RFID. Suggestion: Allow both electronic and (as a backup) verbal check in. If you can get even some people through the line faster, it will speed the entire process. Yes, voters would have to prepare their document ahead of time, but I'm specifically proposing a system that is opt-in, so documents will not be required. Based on I when I entered the check in line (6:45 PM) and the number of voters in the auditorium ahead of me, I estimate that check in ran from 6:30 PM through 7:50 PM, a duration of 80 minutes. That's far too long. Each voter received a paper receipt after registration which was then surrendered as they entered the auditorium. Those receipts contained personally identifiable information. Suggestion: Make sure to properly secure and destroy the collected receipts after the meeting.</p>	10/15/2023 10:39 PM
2	Start on time	10/15/2023 8:42 PM
3	They should had started at 7.. the number was well below the cut off of 1200 people	10/14/2023 8:35 PM
4	WAY to late for parents. Kids were babysitting and being babysat not at home way past their bedtimes, kids at home alone had to put themselves to sleep. Also had to cancel kids sports practices/game to accommodate parents getting to meeting.	10/14/2023 7:56 PM
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A microphone use lesson for everyone. I have one online on YouTube, but it was done at Arlington's Town Meeting years ago, so it's not quite the same. They used both wireless and wired microphones. Schools and colleges never teach this basic skill! - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_pVarW1Dvs8 • Also find some way to better notify the public when the Warrant will arrive in the Action Unlimited. • Also, provide many more than 2 copies of the Warrant at the Library, so that people who can't get to Town Hall during hours it's open can pick up a copy there. 	10/14/2023 1:33 PM

6	The meeting should be remote and at a later time. starting at 8:30 would be reasonable given the average commute time and then factoring eating dinner prior.	10/13/2023 11:22 AM
7	I'm sure I'm stating the obvious, but this was not accessible to many, many people. The attendance requirement is absurd and disenfranchises many parents, night shift workers, among others.	10/13/2023 7:07 AM
8	Virtual option, perhaps a more clear cap to the questions and comments, a shorter cap to the presentations about each article	10/13/2023 12:35 AM
9	No town meeting but if the expectation is that meetings will run over that long, they need to be earlier	10/12/2023 10:13 PM
10	Streamed, proxy voting anything to allow all registered town voters access	10/12/2023 8:11 PM
11	Is it possible to have hybrid meetings so people can attend virtually who cannot make it in person?	10/12/2023 11:07 AM
12	Large print handouts for seniors	10/12/2023 10:29 AM
13	A remote option for those who have physical limitations and/or during pandemics	10/12/2023 9:18 AM
14	Town Meeting must either be able to accommodate every registered voter who wishes to attend or must be abolished or must be held as a virtual meeting like public companies use for their shareholder meetings; software/technology is completely safe and allows reliable voting on multiple matters.	10/12/2023 8:09 AM
15	Town seemed unprepared for a large turnout which should have been expected. Starting the meeting 1 hr late impacted many families. Doesn't happen often, but caused great concern when misinformation was being told to ppl. Some thought they couldn't attend if arriving after 7. There were over 75 kids in childcare at the library, plus more with their parents. The town needs to plan more inclusive and better consider needs of families. The additional step to check in (1 place to get slip then another place to recheck in to get pad) felt unnecessary and slowed down the process. Can this be streamlined? It was hard to hear, so having to repeat everything multiple times caused delays too. We should remove Tues evening requirement for ATM from Charter NOW to allow flexibility for future changes in By-laws. Drive in mtgs were best, especially as it relates to those ill, immunocompromised, with disabilities, or have young children.	10/11/2023 11:14 PM
16	They clearly didn't expect the large crowd that showed up. Understandable, but it added an hour to the length of an already full agenda. Few people can stay to the end, which I think everyone would like to do. It would be more efficient to plan for and be ready to receive a large crowd, especially for very high interest items such as were on the agenda last night. The cost of hiring additional police officers and other staff is well worth keeping everyone safe and keeping the meeting accessible to as many residents as possible.	10/11/2023 10:40 PM
17	Voting should not occur at town meetings. It is inaccessible to most citizens in town.	10/11/2023 9:29 PM
18	Larger space so everyone can sit together. Improved microphone so all speakers can be heard.	10/11/2023 9:21 PM
19	Video options this can be verified by up address or by assigning voting codes by household.	10/11/2023 8:50 PM
20	Improve registration. Meeting needs to start on time.	10/11/2023 8:32 PM
21	Make it virtual!	10/11/2023 7:48 PM
22	Make the meeting more accessible for all, including those with small Children who aren't potty trained, and for those with immunocompromised members, and those who work late	10/11/2023 7:47 PM
23	Advertise earlier admittance.	10/11/2023 7:39 PM
24	Speakers should be registered ahead of time and there should be a cap. Presentations should be time limited.	10/11/2023 6:39 PM
25	Hold it on a weekend during the day not a weekday evening. Have a system similar to Rider Switch at Disney World, so both parents can vote. Sometimes kids are sick and can't be babysat.	10/11/2023 6:29 PM
26	Have webcast available	10/11/2023 6:26 PM

27	Easier and faster check in	10/11/2023 6:23 PM
28	Timing, voting method.	10/11/2023 6:05 PM
29	Option to participate online/remotely or vote on articles with a paper ballot. While I appreciate kids were welcome and there were on-site babysitters, my kids simply can't be out that late.	10/11/2023 5:56 PM
30	I think the Town should better anticipate votes that will draw large crowds. Articles 3 and 4 were issues that many felt strongly about, and the supporters of those articles worked hard to bring out people to vote. This was abundantly clear in the weeks leading up to STM in online content, in conversation with pretty much any citizen, and in the abundance of yards signs in support of those articles. Yet, the Town Moderator kept saying the large turnout was "unanticipated." How, on earth, was this unanticipated by the Town? I think the Town can take steps to better communicate with residents, and plan logistics in advance. A 6:45pm start time was never going to be adequate. but, things did run smoothly at the registration table so, maybe just starting earlier and having more direction in the parking lot would have gotten things in order so we could have started on time. I think the main loss was inaccessibility for a lot of residents who would have liked to participate.	10/11/2023 5:12 PM
31	Make it on a day everyone can attend like a Sunday	10/11/2023 4:57 PM
32	Encourage people to come on time!	10/11/2023 4:50 PM
33	A way to vote remotely. We work weekends and our little ones bed time is 7:30 pm. He's not potty trained so the childcare provided isn't an option, plus he'd be a mess after 8. My husband went to the meeting; I really wanted to go too but just too hard with the kid and I also had morning sickness.	10/11/2023 4:44 PM
34	Accessibility for people with families and young children. Televised for those not able to attend but want to keep current about what was said.	10/11/2023 4:43 PM
35	Accessibility is a big issue. Folks who have kids at home, those that work in the evening, the infirmed, immobile, or just plain sick are not able to make it and therefore not represented. Having a way to participate remotely could help solve for this inequity.	10/11/2023 4:39 PM
36	other folks complained about not having better accessibility for a handicapped or elderly family member as an excuse to not attend and I fear they will try to claim it was an act of discrimination	10/11/2023 4:08 PM
37	Figuring out how to vote without having to be in person because clearly we don't have a facility in town that can hold everyone that wants attend/vote.	10/11/2023 3:15 PM
38	Quicker way to get residents registered.	10/11/2023 2:43 PM
39	Sound system. I couldn't understand a word that was said.	10/11/2023 2:29 PM
40	Ideally we would not have to vote at the meeting. I know this is MA law but the only way to make it truly accessible is to have the meeting for discussion, explanation etc and people can attend or view online, and then vote via ballot afterwards like a regular election. The current system is archaic and excludes many people for a whole host of reasons.	10/11/2023 2:19 PM
41	More accessible to families with young children. Virtual option/voting early	10/11/2023 1:35 PM
42	To find a way for people to participate, and vote, from home	10/11/2023 1:07 PM
43	Allow voting by ballot at city hall or by mail for those who cannot attend	10/11/2023 12:59 PM
44	For hot ticket items there should be more seating ready, better crowd control. Use football field or larger space. Have a timer for how long the public can speak both in length and how many people.	10/11/2023 12:50 PM
45	Open doors for registration earlier and clearly communicate timeline for registration and meeting time so that start time is not delayed. If there is a cut off, that should be clearly communicated as well. It would be better to not have a cutoff at all but rather more staff and overflow spaces so that those who are delayed for whatever reason can still participate. Due to the parking overflow situation, it would be great to get one of the COA shuttles or similar to transport people with mobility issues who need to park in a further lot. Further, getting these things sorted to be able to start at the actual start time will help those of us with care responsibilities who need to plan coverage and/or will have to leave the meeting early and miss	10/11/2023 12:37 PM

	out on voting. On-site childcare is great but my kids who used it last night didn't get to bed until hours after their bedtime because things ran so late.	
46	more notice on arrival time - use the digital sign at the traffic light by boys and girls. also there was only one cop in the parking lot @ fowlert before.	10/11/2023 12:10 PM
47	Can't always hear moderator well. He wasn't always speaking directly into the mic. Understandable, but maybe he should wear a microphone instead of using the fixed one.	10/11/2023 11:50 AM
48	Not enough space for all those who wanted to attend. Get a bigger space that is handicapped accessible.	10/11/2023 11:39 AM
49	There must be a mandated start time. If people arrive late, they just miss what they miss. It was poor planning to delay start for one hour. Disrespectful to all who were there and had to stay much later than expected.	10/11/2023 10:57 AM
50	Electronic vote - I know that is a stretch	10/11/2023 10:54 AM
51	Are Tuesdays the best day of the week for voting on important matters?	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
52	It would be nice if the meeting could be on the weekend so those folks with young children could both attend. One of us had to stay home to do bed time and only one voting member of our house could attend.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
53	1)Anticipating and accommodating all that want to attend. 2) Directions to the venue - except for a single sign off of Great Road, there are no signs directing one to Fowler.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
54	Access. Not only is it impossible for people who work/have family obligations/other issues to be part of decision-making, but there needs to be a space for town meeting to be held that can actually accommodate everyone who wants to be there.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
55	Check in times - need more people checking in, as well as collecting ballots Timing of event - personally preferred the weekend timing	10/11/2023 10:24 AM
56	1. The registration process needs to be refined. The crowd was so loud and the people at the table had trouble understanding what I was saying to spell my name. They refused to let me enter the letters myself (which would have saved a lot of time, rather than me trying to yell over the crowd noise). As a result, what used to take about 1 minute took nearly 5 minutes. The old system (broken down by the first letter of the surname) at least had the people looking for the correct letters in the alphabet rather than guessing at which of the 26 letters I said. 2. Taking the printout slip with my full name and address to pick up the ballot and pencil is an unnecessary step. There were two people at each check-table--one of them could enter the information to verify voter status, and the other should be handing out the ballots as the voters are registered. Instead, I was left wondering if my full name and address information were to be dumped into regular recycling or whether they would be securely destroyed (shredded). When I asked the person at that table whether the slips would be shredded, she didn't seem to know. That's not confidence-inspiring. 3. The meeting time on the warrant stated that the meeting was to start at 7 PM given a sufficient quorum of people. It was clear by 6:45 PM (the time that I finally made it into the auditorium) that there was a quorum. Instead, the meeting was delayed time and again for people who did not allow for sufficient time to get through the registration process by 7 PM. Every other town meeting begins at the start time, regardless of how many people are still in line. Several times, the moderator stated that they had not anticipated the crowd that this meeting attracted, which left me wondering how the moderator and town meeting staff could be so out of touch. The Green Meadow proposal had attracted a lot of attention for several months, and the proposal for the senior center was similarly promulgated on social media outlets. It was clear to me that this would be a big turnout meeting. The crowd that showed up for the vote on funding the new high school was a similar-sized crowd. Back then, people were able to show up with enough time to get through the registration process before the meeting was slated to start. 4. The AV status of this meeting was below par. Several times, the students running the microphones were not attentive enough, which led to time spent waiting for them to turn on microphones for speakers on the stage and at the aisles. 5. The moderator, at times, was unintelligible as he spoke across the microphone and not into it. Many other presenters were similarly unintelligible. Before the next meeting, all presenters should be required to take a course on how to speak into a microphone and an enunciation class so that their words are not run together in such a way that it sounds as if they're speaking with a mouth full of marbles. 6. The moderator should make clear, at the start of the meeting, what the proper etiquette is. At least four times during the meeting, members of the town meeting body erupted in applause and cheers. Had he made explicitly	10/11/2023 10:22 AM

clear that this is unacceptable behavior at the start, that may have been quelled. Additionally, there were several small children present at the meeting, which would not have been a problem if their parents had taken them out of the room when they started to cry. Instead, the process of understanding the presenters' garbled speech was made even more difficult. At previous town meetings (with a different moderator), the policy was that children could stay so long as they were quiet and did not disrupt the proceedings. Go back to that policy. Also, there needs to be an announcement that if people choose to leave the meeting in progress, they should leave quickly and quietly so as not to disrupt the rest of the meeting. I was unable to either hear or see any of the presentation of the article following the announcement of the school vote as people stood up to leave and stopped to chat along the way. If town meeting is truly a legislative body and if the moderator had any control of the meeting, he would at least suspend the introduction of new items while there's such commotion. Ideally, the moderator would have made so clear that the meeting is serious business so as to state that if people intended to leave at some point before the meeting was over, they should be seated in the overflow room so as not to disrupt the ongoing proceedings. Additionally, at previous town meetings, the expectation was that every voter had to have a seat. At this town meeting, there were many people standing at the back of the room continuously throughout the meeting (not just the usual police officers). Guests used to be segregated into the guest section so that they could not influence town meeting members' votes. Instead, I saw people with Guest tags seated throughout the auditorium. Has that policy also been done away with?

57	When there are large and hot buttons issues on the agenda which will no doubt draw many more people than normal they need to really take that in consideration well before the meeting and changes need to be put in place to accommodate the increased number of people so the meeting can start on time. Last night was absolutely ridiculous, there's absolutely no reason they couldn't have changed the location well before the meeting so that we all didn't have to wait almost an hour for the meeting to start. As well as that there's been MANY people that have said they just went home because they couldn't find parking, kind of sounds like this was all done intentionally to keep people away because they were afraid the school wouldn't pass if too many people showed up since it was quite clear the majority of towns people don't want this ridiculously overpriced school	10/11/2023 10:20 AM
58	Bigger space for more accommodation	10/11/2023 10:18 AM
59	People showing up earlier and not expecting to be able to walk right in at 7:00 PM	10/11/2023 10:14 AM
60	Some system in which we can vote without sitting through the meeting. Or, have the meeting on a weekend.	10/11/2023 10:11 AM
61	Start registration earlier so they can start on time.	10/11/2023 10:05 AM
62	I did not attend because the meeting was inaccessible to me. My spouse had to work; my child with disabilities cannot attend with me, and can't be cared for by unfamiliar, untrained high school students. I know this is an issue of Town Meeting law, but it's ridiculous that in 2023 there is not a way to advocate for that law to be changed so all can participate and vote.	10/11/2023 10:00 AM
63	I would appreciate more information in advance about what to expect, both in terms of content (elaborated descriptions of topics) and logistics (in person only or Zoom; anticipated duration of meeting so we know how long to book a babysitter for; general public voting or only elected officials voting at this point? etc.) in order to help determine the feasibility and importance of attending. Attending a crowded event in person at 7:00 is a significant logistical and financial challenge for families with young children, so better understanding the event would have helped me to make an informed decision. I couldn't figure out if it was an opportunity to vote or an opportunity to learn more about the topics (in which case I would love to watch a recording later on to stay informed - is this available?). I did not understand the difference between what is meant by a Special Town Meeting vs. what I thought was the vote re: GM in November. If there were an email list to receive updates, etc. I would happily sign up (if this exists, I'm not sure where to find it.)	10/11/2023 9:33 AM
64	Some of the discussion was long winded. I think 1 minute should be the expected contribution time for speakers especially if they're not aware of the process behind some of these articles	10/11/2023 9:32 AM
65	I tried to go, but I have long covid and can't stand for any length of time. I arrived shortly before 7pm only to find the only parking was quite a distance away. By the time I parked and got in line, it was 7:20 and the line wrapped way around the parking lot and was not moving fast at all. It was clear I would not be physically capable of standing that long, so I had to leave	10/11/2023 9:27 AM

66	There needs to be a better way to get more people with kids to the meeting. While we appreciate the free babysitting, our kids were incredibly tired and grumpy after sitting in the library for over 3 hours and up 2 hours past their bedtime on a school night. Is it possible to have one night of discussion for those who want to keep discussing and one night with the actual voting and no discussion? I already knew how I was going to vote on all articles and did not need to sit for hours listening to people discuss. The paper ballot voting being collected by church baskets could be improved - is there an electronic option to speed that up? In the past it has always been said you could show up at any time and still register and vote in town meeting as long as you didn't miss the article you wanted to vote on - but this year they cut people off who should have been allowed in.	10/11/2023 9:26 AM
67	Better access for elders and large capacity crowd	10/11/2023 9:15 AM
68	We need a more equitable way to vote and participate so every demographic in Maynard has a fair chance at raising their concerns and voting.	10/11/2023 9:11 AM
69	This town meeting model is outmoded for our current society. It is the most undemocratic method, relying on a small window of time for voters to arrive and pretend to discuss things that are impractical to amend, though the town meeting "process" would give you the impression that you *may* change warrant articles. With over 3000 voters in Maynard and so few able to go to town meeting: it's time to put this method of decision making to bed. A public referendum where you at least get the day to go cast a ballot would certainly be more fair and practical use of time than spending indeterminate numbers of hours at the spectacle that is called "town meeting."	10/11/2023 9:04 AM
70	Option to attend remotely; advance write-in voting	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
71	Faster check in process	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
72	More check in stations	10/11/2023 8:37 AM
73	Zoom or online access Evoting Meeting to start on time	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
74	I was turned away from town meeting as I was not able to get there before seven due to an unforeseen family emergency. The meeting did not even start until an hour after I was turned away. NO ONE should have been turned away. However, if there is going to be a time cutoff for admittance that should be made clear in advance so that people can plan accordingly. In my case, I wouldn't have even tried to get there and would have finished resolving the emergency.	10/11/2023 8:26 AM
75	For meetings that are likely to be big: checkin starting 30 mins before. More people at checkin. Time sensitivity to people with young children at the meetings which is common when contentious school issues come up. (Vote on those first; some issues are genuinely not as important as others.)	10/11/2023 8:23 AM
76	The time of the meeting needs to change. There is no good time for everyone but dinner/bedtime on a weeknight is inaccessible to large groups of people, especially parents. There needs to be a way to vote absentee. Modernizing the process with technology can make it more accessible.	10/11/2023 8:08 AM
77	Please abolish the in-person Town Meeting format. It is inconvenient, inaccessible, and physically impossible to include everyone who has a right to vote. Please adopt software similar to what large companies use for their shareholder meetings - this can be done.	10/11/2023 8:07 AM
78	Participation without being present. I was sick with Covid and simply couldn't participate.	10/11/2023 8:04 AM
79	Registration	10/11/2023 7:56 AM
80	Zoom	10/11/2023 7:52 AM
81	A weekend morning would be much more convenient	10/11/2023 7:50 AM
82	Faster check-in. Access to Wi-Fi for fact checking	10/11/2023 7:49 AM
83	Options to participate online/hybrid. Difficult for elders who can't see well to drive at night, parents w young kids, and those with disabilities. In this day and age, online could be done. Or do Saturdays if you don't have the ability to change archaic state laws. Moderator blaming the voters for late start was insulting. He also needs to cap the comments. Not effective.	10/11/2023 7:45 AM
84	More room for attendees. More clarity on votes. Select board justify their votes of acting in official capacity.	10/11/2023 7:45 AM

85	Having an option for voting that does not require physical presence at town meeting. Absentee ballot, something online, etc. For in person meeting, an expedited check in process. When a motion from a citizen is heard to vote, discontinue discussion and hold the vote. Limit citizen comments to a certain number of individuals, limit time per individual to speak (citizen and presenter), and/or other methods to limit the time for each article.	10/11/2023 7:44 AM
86	Hold the netting during the day on a weekend! Faster check in process and limit the comment time to 2 minutes each.	10/11/2023 7:40 AM
87	Have an in person and virtual opportunity to debate issues, but then a separate ballot where people can vote, so that in person at town meeting isn't the only way to vote on important issues.	10/11/2023 7:38 AM
88	A way to vote that allows people who cannot attend in person to participate.	10/11/2023 7:33 AM
89	Ask the state if we could have proxy or absentee votes to allow tax payers who are working or otherwise unavailable, to exercise their right to vote.	10/11/2023 7:32 AM
90	Are they available to attend on Zoom? That would enable us to attend. Also, being able to vote on the issues to be addressed in advance at Town Hall.	10/11/2023 7:31 AM
91	Checkin process speed Location if anticipated to be a larger turnout	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
92	limit on the amount of time people speak	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
93	A way to participate remotely.	10/11/2023 7:28 AM
94	Checkin process and paper ballot collecting	10/11/2023 7:27 AM
95	I would like to see weekend meetings in vehicles as we did during the pandemic. I thought it worked very well and it was far more convenient for residents.	10/11/2023 7:25 AM
96	Encourage people to show up earlier, or hold it outdoors!	10/11/2023 7:23 AM
97	Let people vote from home or online!	10/11/2023 7:21 AM
98	Keep in person, follow tradition and law and established rules.	10/11/2023 7:21 AM
99	The physical voting process	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
100	More expedient check in process	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
101	Allow voting without being present at the meeting	10/11/2023 7:17 AM
102	Not requiring in person attendance	10/11/2023 7:15 AM
103	Being able to vote by other methods versus all in person.	10/11/2023 7:09 AM
104	Zoom!!	10/11/2023 7:09 AM
105	Online voting options	10/11/2023 7:08 AM
106	Move to a Saturdays, incorporate a check in time ahead of meeting start time, rehearse mics ahead of time, save big votes to the end of the meeting, babysitting must last to end of meeting when offered	10/11/2023 7:07 AM
107	Have it in high school auditorium if that provides more seating and parking. I was there early enough to get a good parking space and seat. But we had to wait 40 minutes after official start time for meeting to begin. When I left Fowler, I was shocked to see how many people were walking to the high school to go to their car where they picked. Lastly, as a senior 10pm is my bedtime on a good night! Sometimes it is 9. But I am up by 5. More space for seating and parking	10/11/2023 7:00 AM
108	accessibility	10/11/2023 6:57 AM
109	More accessible- people had to stand in line for over an hour and sit in bleachers etc It ran too late for us with kids who had with us so that two parents could vote	10/11/2023 6:56 AM
110	I arrived too late; there was no parking and the line was too long. Even if we cannot vote, it would have been good to watch the meeting via live stream.	10/11/2023 6:53 AM
111	Extremely frustrating to be on time & seated and wait for 100s more who showed up last	10/11/2023 6:52 AM

minute to check in. Would be less problematic if it weren't in the evening. Waiting later to begin makes the meeting extend even later into the night. On a work/school night. Can we scan licenses to check in faster? Can we start without some?

112	Town meeting needs to be accessible to all members of the community. This means outdoors, or in a place with excellent ventilation to prevent the spread of pathogens like COVID-19, which is still raging and killing people. It means not holding it at night. Ideally, we would move to a representative form, so not everyone has to show up at all.	10/11/2023 6:51 AM
113	There need to be a validated zoom link to allow all to attend even remotely. It is not safe to hold such a huge gathering.	10/11/2023 6:48 AM
114	limit people talking who just want to hear themselves talk	10/11/2023 6:47 AM
115	Limit comment time. Start registration earlier and post in the warrant. Registration volunteers should be able to enter names faster. Speed up time between articles.	10/11/2023 6:37 AM
116	Some way to speed up registration especially for those of us who are going to come right before the meeting starts because that's what our schedule allows.	10/10/2023 10:15 PM
117	Testing	10/3/2023 10:47 AM

Q4 What did you like best about the Special Town Meeting?

Answered: 81 Skipped: 51

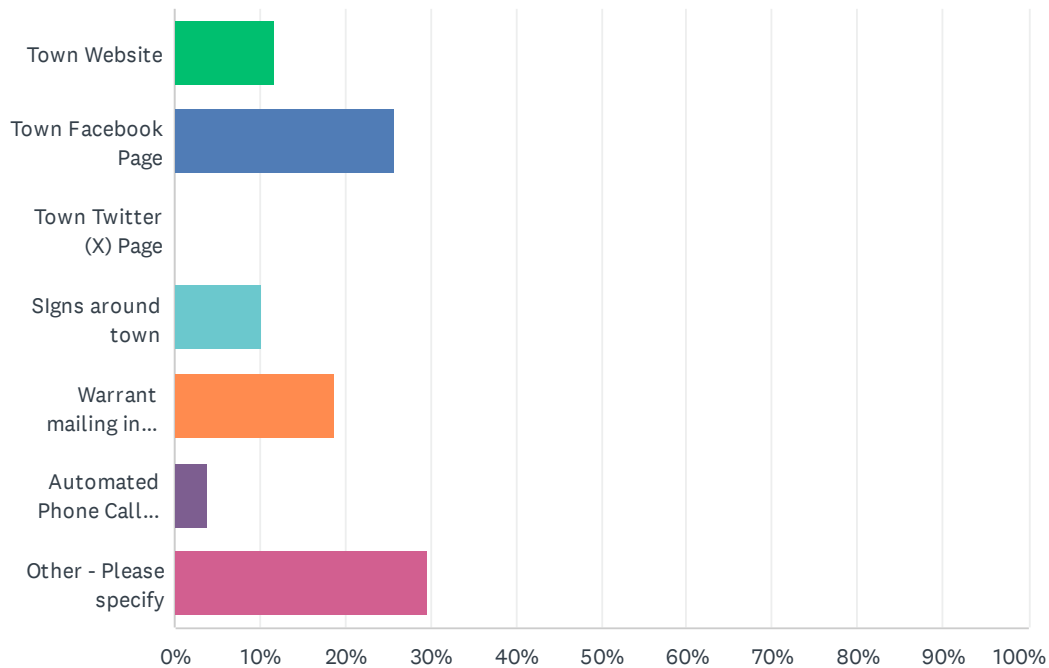
#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	That you planned ahead enough to have overflow space prepared in the Fowler School gym in addition to the auditorium.	10/15/2023 10:39 PM
2	Important items passed	10/15/2023 8:42 PM
3	People were respectful	10/14/2023 8:35 PM
4	That someone asked if we could be done with question 3 comments after the moderator originally said he wanted to allow more comments. Again parents needed to get home to kids and get kids in bed	10/14/2023 7:56 PM
5	I liked that finally there was a good sound system and good lighting on the stage. I think the moderator does a very good job.	10/14/2023 1:33 PM
6	That the school passed and the conservative morons that populate facebook and make this town less nice lost in their myopic and small minded approach to life	10/13/2023 11:22 AM
7	Watching our 15 month old toddle around the school gym and meeting some neighbors!	10/13/2023 12:35 AM
8	Community involvement, STM workers. Town clerks office was organized and professional	10/12/2023 8:11 PM
9	Strong attendance by the community	10/12/2023 10:29 AM
10	Nothing. It's actually UN-democratic when many people can't attend due to scheduling conflicts/travel, illness, lack of space in meeting, lack of parking, etc. It worked in 1700's when all 50 adults in town could meet in one barn.	10/12/2023 8:09 AM
11	The ability to finish all necessary business. WAVM, babysitters, and all volunteers are great to ensure the town voters are able to come together to engage on matters of importance for Maynard.	10/11/2023 11:14 PM
12	The moderator and the helpers did a very good job of keeping the meeting on track. Comments from the residents were well thought out and presented appropriately.	10/11/2023 10:40 PM
13	That the Voters spoke and voted YES on several articles. The Select Board needs to listen to the voters in this Town.	10/11/2023 9:21 PM
14	The senior center passing	10/11/2023 8:50 PM
15	Professional informative presentations.	10/11/2023 8:32 PM
16	The option for child care.	10/11/2023 7:50 PM
17	I couldn't make it because of the setup	10/11/2023 7:47 PM
18	Noting particular	10/11/2023 7:39 PM
19	Civic engagement	10/11/2023 6:39 PM
20	My partner liked the process of everyone being able to have a say should they so choose	10/11/2023 6:29 PM
21	Moderator did a great job. Seeing it was like herding cats	10/11/2023 6:23 PM
22	The overflow set up worked really well, AV system was clear, moderator was clear.	10/11/2023 6:05 PM
23	Despite my comments above, I liked the registration process, and it went smoothly for me. I also think the Town Moderator does a great job running the meeting. The Childcare was especially helpful.	10/11/2023 5:12 PM
24	Nothing	10/11/2023 4:57 PM
25	In person!	10/11/2023 4:50 PM

26	That so many families came out to vote for an important issue.	10/11/2023 4:43 PM
27	I like the camaraderie and seeing neighbors come out for a cause they are passionate about. I also like that town meeting exposes me to local government and topics that I otherwise would not have known about.	10/11/2023 4:39 PM
28	I liked the man who was very concerned about cats and the overly serious moderator, he felt like a parody of a real person.	10/11/2023 4:08 PM
29	It was well organized and run very efficiently.	10/11/2023 2:43 PM
30	Seeing so many people!	10/11/2023 2:29 PM
31	As smooth as possible to check in and clear voting procedures, even if they felt very archaic	10/11/2023 2:19 PM
32	Free Babysitting available	10/11/2023 1:35 PM
33	I really liked seeing so many of my fellow citizens engaged in the process	10/11/2023 1:07 PM
34	Seeing people from town.	10/11/2023 12:50 PM
35	Thank you for providing childcare and helping give families with young children a voice in the process.	10/11/2023 12:37 PM
36	the outcome of the vote	10/11/2023 12:10 PM
37	It was well attended	10/11/2023 10:57 AM
38	Several volunteers stepping up to help	10/11/2023 10:54 AM
39	I appreciated the moderator, the organization of the warrants and speakers, and the many volunteers who helped to make things run smoothly despite the surprising number of people in attendance.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
40	It was my first time attending a meeting it was interesting to see the process and to feel our community voices being heard.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
41	People being involved.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
42	That the av system was significantly improved over past town meetings	10/11/2023 10:24 AM
43	The presentation given by Jack Keen (I think that's his name) about the senior center proposal. Why do I think that's the best part? Because he had the ONLY clear presentation that seemed well-thought-out and persuasive. He provided details without reading the slides verbatim. In short, it was clear that he had practiced his presentation and thought about how to present it to people who were not involved in the process of finding a potential room/building option. Select people could learn a lot from his presentation style. Instead of just reading the slides, provide some background information. Other presenters (particularly ones involved with the school) could learn a lot, too. Provide the details of every potential solution that was discussed and why they were rejected. Explain HOW you came to the conclusions you did. There was a great deal of pushback to the idea that town meeting was presented with a "here's our proposal and there's no other option" vote. That feeling is out there because the proponents spent so much time talking and not enough time listening. Finding out about meetings in town is difficult. Meeting minutes are posted weeks after the meetings occurred and don't include nuances of discussions. When I finally learned of the ongoing meetings, they were past the stage where my input could have been used, i.e. the details were already in place--which leads to the town meeting as a rubber stamp sentiment that's out there.	10/11/2023 10:22 AM
44	Nothing, the meeting was ran like an absolute circus!	10/11/2023 10:20 AM
45	People were able to voice their opinions on the articles.	10/11/2023 10:14 AM
46	The huge turnout. The amazing efforts of citizens and those participating in the committees. It's inspiring. And, though I would hope next time we could find a way to be prepared for the large turnout, it went remarkably well despite the unexpected crowd AND new check-in system.	10/11/2023 10:11 AM
47	the screen in front showing what they were talking about.	10/11/2023 10:05 AM
48	Appreciating the hard work of the town employees and volunteers. The free childcare!!	10/11/2023 9:32 AM

49	so nice to see such a high turnout - yay Maynard	10/11/2023 9:27 AM
50	The sound was great - we were in the gym and were able to hear and see everything well.	10/11/2023 9:26 AM
51	Participating in the legislative process.	10/11/2023 9:11 AM
52	Nothing.	10/11/2023 9:04 AM
53	The turnout	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
54	Everyone was very respectful	10/11/2023 8:37 AM
55	Thank you to police, volunteers and town staff	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
56	Thought the moderator did a good job of handling what could have been a messy meeting with lots of strong feelings	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
57	Overflow room was ready. Checkin was pretty fast; the line was moving right along. Volunteers were responsive to running out of seating in the overflow area.	10/11/2023 8:23 AM
58	The evening ran mostly smoothly though it didn't start until an hour after it was supposed to.	10/11/2023 8:08 AM
59	Meh	10/11/2023 7:56 AM
60	Comments didn't go on forever	10/11/2023 7:49 AM
61	That you tried electronic check in. Slow but should speed up w practice.	10/11/2023 7:45 AM
62	The attendance	10/11/2023 7:45 AM
63	The moderator did a great job of maintaining decorum and shutting down applause.	10/11/2023 7:44 AM
64	People working together to make decisions!	10/11/2023 7:40 AM
65	Moderator did a great job moving things along.	10/11/2023 7:33 AM
66	Seeing neighbors	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
67	they put a limit on the comments	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
68	The Moderator kept the meeting moving, despite complications. Clear presentations.	10/11/2023 7:27 AM
69	The turnout and the results.	10/11/2023 7:25 AM
70	The childcare made both of my household's voters able to attend at least a little	10/11/2023 7:23 AM
71	The turnout was impressive! I never saw so many people at a town meeting before. Lots of young families and parents	10/11/2023 7:21 AM
72	The moderator did an exceptionally good job	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
73	Presenters were well prepared, it was moderated well	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
74	Moving through public comments quickly	10/11/2023 7:15 AM
75	Flowed well, short and concise presentations	10/11/2023 7:07 AM
76	That so many people attended Well prepared presentatiobs	10/11/2023 7:00 AM
77	Communication between rooms & sound was amazingly well done.	10/11/2023 6:52 AM
78	I did not	10/11/2023 6:48 AM
79	people actually showed up	10/11/2023 6:47 AM
80	Well structured meeting order.	10/11/2023 6:37 AM
81	Testing	10/3/2023 10:47 AM

Q5 How did you learn about this Special Town Meeting?

Answered: 128 Skipped: 4



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Town Website	11.72%	15
Town Facebook Page	25.78%	33
Town Twitter (X) Page	0.00%	0
Signs around town	10.16%	13
Warrant mailing in Action Unlimited	18.75%	24
Automated Phone Call ("Reverse 911")	3.91%	5
Other - Please specify	29.69%	38
TOTAL		128

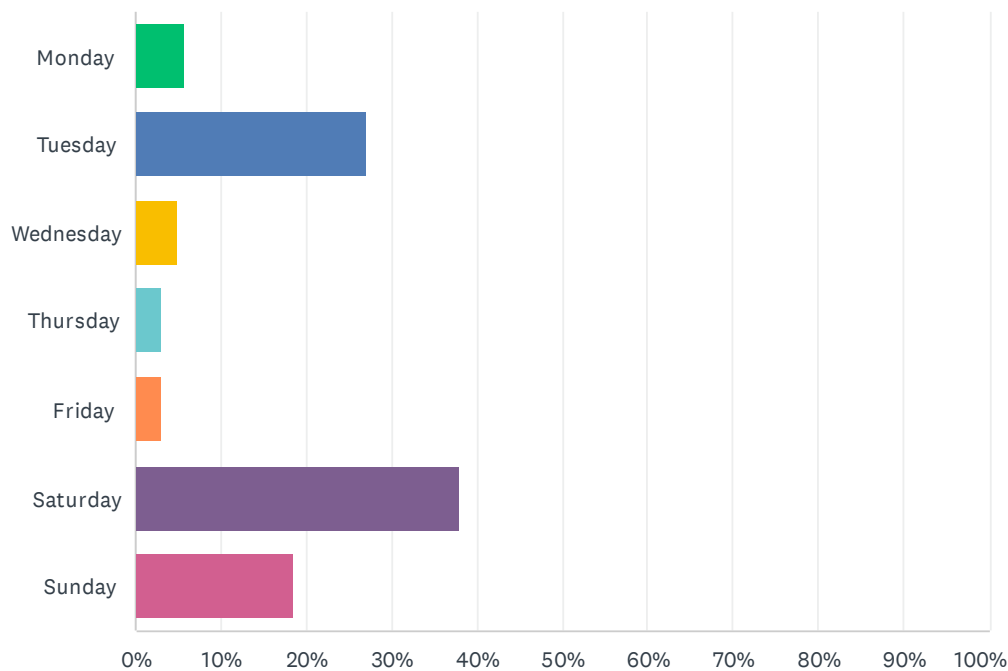
#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Informed	10/14/2023 7:56 PM
2	Other people and GMS Building presentations which I attended.	10/14/2023 1:33 PM
3	town email	10/13/2023 11:22 AM
4	Word of mouth (also a problem)	10/13/2023 7:07 AM
5	Other Maynard Facebook groups	10/13/2023 12:35 AM
6	FB neighbors	10/12/2023 10:29 PM
7	Facebook groups / word of mouth	10/12/2023 10:13 PM

8	Friend reminding me	10/12/2023 9:18 AM
9	Attending town meetings	10/11/2023 11:14 PM
10	Maynard Friends and Families Facebook page.	10/11/2023 10:40 PM
11	Friends	10/11/2023 7:50 PM
12	Neighbors	10/11/2023 7:48 PM
13	Word of mouth	10/11/2023 7:47 PM
14	Schools	10/11/2023 7:39 PM
15	Local facebook groups, email blasts from friends, local WhatsApp groups	10/11/2023 6:29 PM
16	Family connections in the community.	10/11/2023 6:05 PM
17	Social media- not official town sites	10/11/2023 5:56 PM
18	Didn't see the warrant (but even sure we get Action Unlimited in our apt building. I found out about it on an informal Facebook page (Maynard Friends and Families). Very disappointed in the lack of official spreading the word	10/11/2023 4:44 PM
19	School committee Facebook post	10/11/2023 4:43 PM
20	The organizers of the green meadow project did a great job promoting the meeting	10/11/2023 4:39 PM
21	Nick told me	10/11/2023 4:08 PM
22	I am on the school building committee.	10/11/2023 2:43 PM
23	By keeping informed about town activities and plans	10/11/2023 2:29 PM
24	Green meadow building committee	10/11/2023 1:35 PM
25	Other Facebook posts, not the Town's	10/11/2023 11:39 AM
26	Social media pages	10/11/2023 10:54 AM
27	Citizen Facebook pages	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
28	Multiple ways.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
29	Word of mouth	10/11/2023 10:11 AM
30	other Facebook posts (Maynard residents; the GM page)	10/11/2023 10:00 AM
31	Follow town issues	10/11/2023 9:47 AM
32	other Maynard-related Facebook pages	10/11/2023 9:33 AM
33	mail (snail mail)	10/11/2023 9:27 AM
34	Have attended town meetings for years	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
35	FB	10/11/2023 8:08 AM
36	all of the above	10/11/2023 8:07 AM
37	Word of mouth	10/11/2023 8:04 AM
38	Facebook not town related	10/11/2023 7:56 AM
39	Social media other than town	10/11/2023 7:52 AM
40	Facebook group sites / friends' sites	10/11/2023 7:50 AM
41	Unofficial town Facebook pages (housewives, gm committee, etc)	10/11/2023 7:44 AM
42	Friends	10/11/2023 7:33 AM
43	Through the school's email communications	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
44	Private social media outreach	10/11/2023 7:25 AM

45	I'm on a committee	10/11/2023 7:23 AM
46	Multiple ways, town involvement	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
47	All of the above	10/11/2023 7:00 AM
48	all of the above	10/11/2023 6:47 AM

Q6 What day of the week would you prefer Town Meetings to be held?

Answered: 103 Skipped: 29



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Monday	5.83%	6
Tuesday	27.18%	28
Wednesday	4.85%	5
Thursday	2.91%	3
Friday	2.91%	3
Saturday	37.86%	39
Sunday	18.45%	19
TOTAL		103

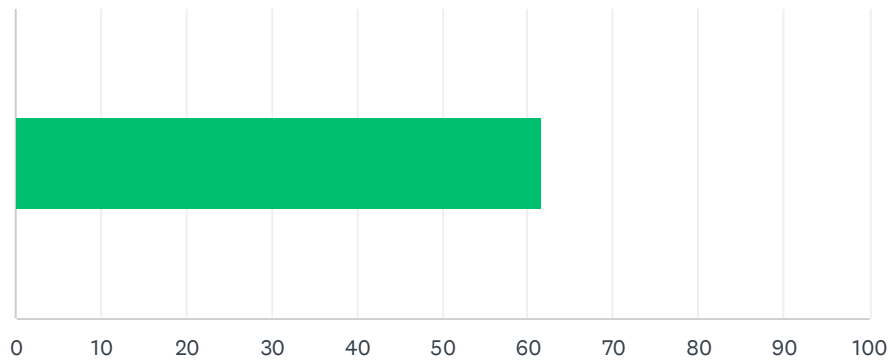
#	COMMENTS (IF DESIRED)	DATE
1	Any	10/15/2023 8:42 PM
2	That outdoors TM was great!	10/14/2023 8:35 PM
3	Any weekday, maybe Sat.	10/14/2023 7:56 PM
4	Any day is fine with me, actually. And please *not* in the morning!	10/14/2023 1:33 PM
5	Sunday is a day most ppl are free, if want more attendance do it on sundays. no one reasoble still goes practices religion. this slider bar below this prompt does not extend far enough. the aaverage commute in MA is about 50 mins, this omits those that work and have the most at stake	10/13/2023 11:22 AM

6	If it has to be in person, maybe hold multiple meetings at different times.	10/13/2023 7:07 AM
7	Sunday afternoon would be easier for getting babysitter	10/13/2023 12:35 AM
8	Sat morning or early afternoon	10/11/2023 11:14 PM
9	Weeknights are impossible for parents of young children. By having them at 7 PM on a weeknight you are only going to get a certain type of person. Ideally meetings with votes should occur on weekends.	10/11/2023 9:29 PM
10	Monday or Tuesday. I don't understand the answer to question #7.	10/11/2023 9:21 PM
11	Any day	10/11/2023 8:50 PM
12	It was best when it was in the mill parking lot	10/11/2023 7:47 PM
13	You should be able to attend virtually	10/11/2023 6:54 PM
14	Or Sunday - DURING THE DAY	10/11/2023 6:29 PM
15	Or earlier evenings on weekdays.	10/11/2023 6:05 PM
16	I know it's hard for administration, but a Saturday Town meeting is just generally better for encouraging participation in the process. If it's possible, a weekend would be better.	10/11/2023 5:12 PM
17	I suppose. But really town meeting is always going to be inaccessible unless there is ballot voting that could be dropped off throughout the day. It is an ancient method of doing something in our modern world and absolutely discriminates against people who don't work a 9-5, parents, home bound folks, anyone sick, you name it!	10/11/2023 4:44 PM
18	Or Sunday night	10/11/2023 4:43 PM
19	Tues, wed, thurs work just fine	10/11/2023 1:35 PM
20	No preference	10/11/2023 12:37 PM
21	Either the very beginning of the week, Monday, or the last day of the week, Friday. And not coinciding with typical family vacations.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
22	Prefer weekday over weekend	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
23	I think for big changes/ proposals weekend meetings would be useful so more community members might be able to attend.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
24	A specific day of the week is never going to work for everyone, so the actual day is less of an issue than making sure it is accessible across the board.	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
25	My preference is weekends, but if it needs to be weeknights, having food available for purchase would go a long way - like a food truck out front with sandwiches/pizza...that would really help	10/11/2023 10:24 AM
26	If meetings are going to go late, I'd prefer they happen at the end of the regular workweek rather than at the beginning.	10/11/2023 10:22 AM
27	Doesn't really matter except not on Sundays	10/11/2023 10:14 AM
28	If the meeting were accessible, day of the week would not matter--any would be fine.	10/11/2023 10:00 AM
29	Weeknights are brutal for families with young kids	10/11/2023 9:32 AM
30	any day works, Just end at a reasonable time please	10/11/2023 9:27 AM
31	Tuesday referendums are needed to replace Town Meeting.	10/11/2023 9:04 AM
32	More day choices would make this survey better. Being able to actually see what time was being chosen would make this survey better. Being able to choose more than one time would make this survey better.	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
33	Doesn't matter	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
34	No preference	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
35	Evening.	10/11/2023 8:04 AM

36	Sunday afternoons would enable more citizens to attend since it would not interfere with most peoples' jobs, kid bedtimes, and seniors' difficulties with driving after dark	10/11/2023 7:44 AM
37	Weeknights are prohibitive for people with children	10/11/2023 7:40 AM
38	I am unable to attend in person as I am caring 24/7 for my Mom	10/11/2023 7:39 AM
39	Weekend afternoon	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
40	I think Sunday afternoon is the most likely time for people to be available to participate	10/11/2023 7:28 AM
41	Anything in person is inconvenient	10/11/2023 7:15 AM
42	Any evening	10/11/2023 6:48 AM
43	For us working parents a 7pm meeting on a weeknight is almost completely impossible to make regularly. Early Sunday morning would be nice so that both me and my spouse could attend and we could have our kids come too if the babysitting is offered.	10/10/2023 10:15 PM

Q7 At what time of day would you prefer Town Meetings to be held?

Answered: 105 Skipped: 27



ANSWER CHOICES	AVERAGE NUMBER	TOTAL NUMBER	RESPONSES
	62	6,475	105
Total Respondents: 105			

#		DATE
1	100	10/15/2023 10:39 PM
2	100	10/15/2023 8:42 PM
3	8	10/14/2023 8:35 PM
4	64	10/14/2023 7:56 PM
5	55	10/14/2023 1:33 PM
6	75	10/13/2023 7:07 AM
7	61	10/13/2023 12:35 AM
8	96	10/12/2023 10:29 PM
9	44	10/12/2023 10:13 PM
10	100	10/12/2023 10:29 AM
11	88	10/12/2023 8:47 AM
12	100	10/11/2023 10:40 PM
13	0	10/11/2023 9:29 PM
14	77	10/11/2023 9:21 PM
15	88	10/11/2023 8:50 PM
16	9	10/11/2023 8:32 PM
17	100	10/11/2023 7:50 PM
18	100	10/11/2023 7:48 PM
19	1	10/11/2023 7:47 PM
20	37	10/11/2023 7:39 PM

Special Town Meeting Survey October 2023

SurveyMonkey

21	81	10/11/2023 6:54 PM
22	14	10/11/2023 6:39 PM
23	35	10/11/2023 6:29 PM
24	39	10/11/2023 6:26 PM
25	80	10/11/2023 6:23 PM
26	8	10/11/2023 6:05 PM
27	100	10/11/2023 5:56 PM
28	100	10/11/2023 4:57 PM
29	79	10/11/2023 4:43 PM
30	0	10/11/2023 4:39 PM
31	80	10/11/2023 4:08 PM
32	100	10/11/2023 3:15 PM
33	88	10/11/2023 2:43 PM
34	17	10/11/2023 2:19 PM
35	80	10/11/2023 1:35 PM
36	89	10/11/2023 1:07 PM
37	85	10/11/2023 12:50 PM
38	90	10/11/2023 12:37 PM
39	87	10/11/2023 11:50 AM
40	100	10/11/2023 11:39 AM
41	100	10/11/2023 10:57 AM
42	100	10/11/2023 10:54 AM
43	90	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
44	100	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
45	11	10/11/2023 10:48 AM
46	10	10/11/2023 10:24 AM
47	88	10/11/2023 10:22 AM
48	91	10/11/2023 10:22 AM
49	65	10/11/2023 10:20 AM
50	85	10/11/2023 10:18 AM
51	100	10/11/2023 10:14 AM
52	2	10/11/2023 10:11 AM
53	90	10/11/2023 10:05 AM
54	99	10/11/2023 9:47 AM
55	23	10/11/2023 9:32 AM
56	74	10/11/2023 9:27 AM
57	46	10/11/2023 9:26 AM
58	66	10/11/2023 9:15 AM

Special Town Meeting Survey October 2023

SurveyMonkey

59	100	10/11/2023 9:11 AM
60	100	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
61	89	10/11/2023 8:44 AM
62	100	10/11/2023 8:37 AM
63	6	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
64	100	10/11/2023 8:32 AM
65	100	10/11/2023 8:26 AM
66	80	10/11/2023 8:23 AM
67	50	10/11/2023 8:18 AM
68	3	10/11/2023 8:08 AM
69	100	10/11/2023 8:07 AM
70	0	10/11/2023 8:04 AM
71	100	10/11/2023 7:56 AM
72	83	10/11/2023 7:52 AM
73	97	10/11/2023 7:52 AM
74	10	10/11/2023 7:50 AM
75	70	10/11/2023 7:49 AM
76	99	10/11/2023 7:46 AM
77	42	10/11/2023 7:45 AM
78	73	10/11/2023 7:45 AM
79	12	10/11/2023 7:44 AM
80	15	10/11/2023 7:40 AM
81	21	10/11/2023 7:38 AM
82	100	10/11/2023 7:32 AM
83	73	10/11/2023 7:31 AM
84	71	10/11/2023 7:30 AM
85	39	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
86	11	10/11/2023 7:29 AM
87	90	10/11/2023 7:28 AM
88	7	10/11/2023 7:27 AM
89	0	10/11/2023 7:25 AM
90	51	10/11/2023 7:23 AM
91	65	10/11/2023 7:21 AM
92	95	10/11/2023 7:21 AM
93	96	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
94	65	10/11/2023 7:19 AM
95	51	10/11/2023 7:09 AM
96	85	10/11/2023 7:09 AM

97	14	10/11/2023 7:07 AM
98	7	10/11/2023 7:00 AM
99	60	10/11/2023 6:57 AM
100	3	10/11/2023 6:53 AM
101	28	10/11/2023 6:52 AM
102	1	10/11/2023 6:51 AM
103	100	10/11/2023 6:48 AM
104	5	10/11/2023 6:37 AM
105	13	10/10/2023 10:15 PM

