

## Summary

This resolution would direct the Board of Selectmen to send a letter to our Congressional Delegation in Washington opposing the United State Supreme Court's interpretation of the Constitution in *Citizens United* regarding the constitutional rights of corporations, supporting an amendment to the Constitution to provide that corporations are not entitled to the entirety of protections or "rights" of natural persons, specifically so that the expenditure of corporate money to influence the electoral process is no longer a form of constitutionally protected speech, and calling on Congress to begin the process of amending the Constitution.

### **The Board of Selectmen supports Town Meeting's action on the proposed sense of the meeting resolution (4-0-1).**

This sense of the meeting motion asks the Boxborough Board of Selectmen to request that our United States Senators and Representative in Congress support a constitutional amendment to overturn *Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission*.

The U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in the above matter held that the First Amendment prohibited the government from restricting political expenditures by corporations and unions. The proposed constitutional amendment would abolish corporate personhood and restrict corporations and corporate interest groups from excessive influence in elections and lawmaking. Similar resolutions have been passed across the country. This article is patterned after the resolution that was passed by New York City Council.

### **The Finance Committee does not recommend (7-1).**

It's not relevant to the fiscal operation of the town.

Maria Neyland moved the question. The motion to vote now carried by two-thirds majority as declared by the moderator.

### **Action on Article 37, ATM, May 17, 2012: The motion carried by majority vote.**

Mr. Suleiman moved to extend past 10:30pm. The motion to extend passed by majority vote.

## **ARTICLE 38 TOWN VOTING – BALLOT – MONDAY TOWN HALL FOLLOWING TOWN MEETING FOLLOWING WEEK - SUBMITTED BY PHILIP KICELE MOS**

Mr. Fallon announced that the petitioner requested that the article 38 be passed over.

**Ms. Neville moved to pass over Article 38. Motion carried unanimously.**

This article provides all town registered voters the opportunity to vote on each warrant article requiring funds from the following sources, free cash, the general fund or funds voted on any article voted at the town meeting prior to this voting date regardless of the amount. Voting can only be done on that Monday during times indicated and properly posted. All votes will be counted and vote count made public after the voting date. These votes taken that date supercede votes taken at previous town meeting.

### **The Board of Selectmen unanimously does NOT recommend (5-0).**

As the article is written in the warrant Town Counsel has advised us that it is not legal.

### **The Finance Committee does not recommend (8-0). Town Meeting is the legislative body.**

Mr. Fallon went through the Consent Agenda to see if any should be held. There was a request to hold Article 40.