

**PROPOSED LANGUAGE
FOR ARTICLE 2011/10 4-2**

SECTION 2: Time of Meetings

a. GENERAL: The town shall meet in regular meetings twice each calendar year, and in special meetings, at such times as the Board of Selectmen may direct, or as otherwise provided by law.

b. MEETING DATES: “The Spring Town meeting, which shall be the Annual Town Meeting for purposes of General Laws, Chapter 39, Section 9, shall include the adoption of an annual budget and other warrant articles, and shall meet, except for the election of Town Officers, on the first Saturday of April in each year at 9:00 in the morning, unless the Selectmen vote to establish another date in order to suit the public convenience for reasons the Selectmen shall determine including, but not limited to, conflicts with the observance of holidays. That date must be a Saturday. If the business of the Annual Town Meeting is not completed on the first day, it may be adjourned from time to time. A regular Fall Town Meeting shall meet at a time designated by the Board of Selectmen, usually the third Saturday in October.”

c. ELECTION OF TOWN OFFICERS: The election of town officers shall be held on the first Thursday after the opening of the Annual Town Meeting. The Selectmen may upon the recommendation of the Town Clerk change the date of the election to either of the next two succeeding Thursdays. The polls for the election of said town officers shall be opened at 7:00 o'clock a.m. and shall close at 8:00 o'clock p.m.

Proposed motion: I move that the Town amend the General By-laws, Ch. I, Sec. 2, by deleting the current language of subsections b. "Meeting Dates" and c. "Election of Town Officers" and replacing them with the proposed language set forth in the handout distributed to voters at the entrance to the Town Meeting, a copy of which has been delivered to the Town Clerk for inclusion in the record of this Meeting. This amendment is contingent upon Wenham amending its By-laws, at a meeting held no later than May 2012, to schedule its Annual Town Meeting to a date within 21 days of the first Saturday of April and shall be effective for the Annual Town Meeting starting in calendar year 2013.