

Last Wednesday, at the Special Town Meeting, we had a Quorum call to count the registered voters present. The Quorum is 150 because of our By-Law below. When the count by our Town Clerk confirmed less than 150 voters present the meeting ended.

In the upcoming Spring or Fall Town Meetings we have no Quorum

## Chapter 2 Rockport Town Meeting By-Law

Section 2 b. Does not set a Quorum it indicates the Spring and Fall Town meeting dates.

Section 4 b the Quorum paragraph indicates any Town Meeting mentioned in Sec 2 b “ the quorum shall those persons present.” This is a zero quorum or no quorum number for Spring and Fall Town Meetings. (what a clever way to write the law using Sec2 and 4 to confuse)

Many voters in Rockport want a Quorum of 200 registered voters for all Town Meetings. More voters present means a better democracy than a Zero Quorum.

Imagine only 100 persons voting for our \$40+ millions Town budget because we have no Quorum

A Town Article Petition will soon be requesting your signatures for a new Sec 4 b Quorum paragraph.

New Section 4 b Giving us a Quorum number for all Town Meetings. Plus a dismissal

## Article Petition for a Quorum

In the Town of Rockport Code of By-Law Amended May 15, 2021, in Chapter 2 Section 4 b in line three strike out the words, “those” and replace with 200. In line four strike out the words “a lesser number,” and replace with 50% of the quorum number present.

Current Rockport By-Laws follow:

## Section 2 b.

Meeting Dates. The Spring Town Meeting, which shall be the Annual Town Meeting for purposes of G.L. c. 39 § 9, primarily concerned with the adoption of an annual budget and other warrant articles which have a fiscal effect on the

Town, shall meet in April or May. The Fall Town Meeting, which shall be primarily concerned with non-fiscal matters, shall meet in September or October. Both the Spring and Fall Town Meetings shall be scheduled as follows: "By April 1st each year the Moderator shall submit a proposed schedule for the Spring and Fall Town Meetings for the next two succeeding calendar years for approval by the Board of Selectmen. (Changed Sept 11, 2017 FTM)

Section 4 b.

Quorum. For any session, including any adjourned session, of a meeting convened on a date specified in Section 2.b., the quorum shall be those persons present. For any other Town Meeting 150 voters shall constitute a quorum, but a lesser number may vote to adjourn.