

Statement Concerning the April 12, 2007 Town Moderator Recount of Ballots Cast

On Thursday, April 12, 2007, a recount of the ballots cast in the March 27 Town Moderator election was conducted in Town Hall, under the direction of the Town Clerk and Town Counsel. This recount was held at the request of one of the candidates for this office. The recount was performed by Town employees and by the Board of Registrars, was witnessed by citizens designated by the two candidates and by other members of the public, and was conducted in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws.

The original March 27 election results were 1,760 votes for Paul Connolly, 1,759 votes for Frank Foss, 5 write-in votes and 408 blank ballots. The certified results of the April 12 recount were 1,772 votes for Paul Connolly, 1,772 votes for Frank Foss, 4 write-in votes and 385 blank ballots.

In accordance with the Natick Town Charter Section 3-1 (g) and Massachusetts General Law, an election that results in a tie is a "Failure to Elect," which requires the Board of Selectmen to appoint an individual to serve as Town Moderator until the next Town Election. The Selectmen may appoint any person who is eligible to serve as Moderator, that is, a registered voter in the Town of Natick. At the next Town Election, the position of Town Moderator will be filled by the voters for a two-year term.

The Town acknowledges and appreciates the efforts of all Town employees, volunteers and officials who participated in this important effort to determine the outcome of the Town election, and also salutes the civic participation of all citizens who voted on March 27.

The Board of Selectmen expects to appoint a Town Moderator prior to the start of Town Meeting on May 29, 2007, and will provide an update on this topic at or before its next scheduled meeting on April 23, 2007. The Town Clerk will proceed to submit the certified results of the recount to the Secretary of State as with any local election.

Questions and concerns may be directed to the Office of the Town Clerk (508-647-6430) and/or the Board of Selectmen (508-647-6410).

Judi Kuhn, Town Clerk

Carol A. Gloff, Chair, Board of Selectmen