

## **Citizens' Petition for a warrant article at the Special Town Meeting on Wednesday, June 25 to update the appointment process for Finance Committee Members:**

### **Why?**

Did you know that members of Lincoln's Finance Committee (FinCom) are currently appointed by a single individual through a closed process? Given that FinCom plays a vital role in shaping decisions that affect nearly every aspect of life in our town, it's important to ensure the process reflects our community's values of transparency and collaboration. Transitioning appointment authority to the Select Board would help strengthen the process in the following ways:

**Let's modernize the appointment process:** Right now, FinCom members are selected without a public process. Shifting appointments to the elected Select Board would bring the Committee in line with how other town committees are formed. More towns throughout the Commonwealth are shifting to this model.

**Strengthen financial oversight:** Giving the Select Board appointment authority connects the Committee more directly to the town's budgeting process—ensuring stronger alignment and shared accountability.

**Encourage fresh ideas and broader perspectives:** This change will help bring in new voices, encourage constructive dialogue, and support a culture of continuous improvement.

**Improve clarity around town finances:** With more open processes, we can present clearer, more accurate financial information to residents and ensure that every tax dollar is thoughtfully used.

**Increase transparency and access:** The FinCom doesn't consistently record meetings or offer virtual access, unlike other Select Board appointed committees. A more inclusive approach will help all residents stay informed and engaged.