

Dover Selectmen Citizens Petition  
Selectmen Board Size (3->5)  
DRAFT  
December 16, 2021

submitted by  
James Stuart  
260 Dedham St.  
Dover, MA. 02030

Article [ ]. (Citizens' Petition) To see if the Town will vote to authorize and instruct the Board of Selectmen (BOS) to establish, empanel and authorize a committee to conduct a study to explore the aspects (pro's, con's, risks, issues to consider, potential timetable, pathway to implementation as well as any other pertinent facets) of the Town's adopting, within the next several years, a five (5) member BOS structure moving from the current three (3) member BOS; said committee to be composed of seven (7) town citizens, with varied, town-related board or committee experiences within the past 15 years, such committee, together with two additional members -- a current member of the BOS and the Town Administrator serving in ex-officio capacities -- to engage a consultant or consulting firm with experience and of high repute in the knowledge and improvement of operations of Massachusetts municipal government and governance; said study to focus on the effects of an expanded BOS, including on the potential for more effective, transparent and efficient governance of the Town in furtherance of the long-standing community ideals of Dover, the landscape and experiences of other Massachusetts towns with 3- and 5- member boards, including towns which have changed their Select Board size, aspects relating to the existing Dover Town administration structure and with any potential changes thereto (such potential changes in Town structure or recommendations thereto not being within the scope of the study but being a consideration, nonetheless) and any other relevant considerations; to present such study to the BOS within the next eighteen (18) months and to the Town prior to the subsequent Annual Town Meeting (ATM); to see if the Town will raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds, accept gifts or provide by any combination of these methods [\$7,500] for this purpose; or take any other action relative thereto.