Summary of Rank Choice Voting for Board of Trustee Vacancy

What is ranked-choice voting?

Ranked-choice voting is an electoral system that allows people to vote for multiple candidates, in order of preference. Instead of just choosing who you want to win, you fill out the ballot saying who is your first choice, second choice, third choice and more as needed for each position.

For a single position, the candidate with the majority (more than 50%) of first-choice votes wins outright. If no candidate gets a majority of first-choice votes, then it triggers a new counting process. The candidate who receives the fewest votes is eliminated, and that candidate's vote are redistributed to the voters' second-choice pick. In other words, if you ranked a losing candidate as your first choice, and the candidate is eliminated, then your vote still counts: it just moves to your second-choice candidate. That process continues until there is a candidate who has the majority of votes

Please watch this one-minute video explaining how Ranked Choice Voting works:

Staff looked at several online voting apps and chose RankedVote
This application allows the staff to:

1. Prepare the ballot.
2. Send a live link to the Board.
3. Limit the Board to one vote (with all candidates ranked only once).
4. Close the voting after everyone has cast their ballot.
5. Automatically tabulate the voting including the elimination process.
6. View each of the Board's ranked choices once it is cast.
7. Save the ranked vote choices made by the Board for public record.

This is how the voting will take place during our public meetings. Each Board Member will:

- Receive an email from Town staff with a link to the ballot.
- Login with their name and Town email address.
- Rank the candidates.
- Submit their ballots.

Town staff will confirm online with each member of the Board that they have voted. Once this is confirmed:

- The voting will be locked.
- The voting results will be shared with the Board and the public.
- The results will be put into the public record.