

ARTICLE 21

VOTE/SURVEILLANCE STUDY GROUP

To see if the Town will vote to form a group to study the use of surveillance technologies by Town agencies; to study the impact of such surveillance technologies on privacy, civil liberties, and human rights; to determine if policy, oversight, or public input frameworks might be appropriate for the Town; or take any action related thereto.

(Inserted at the request of Stephen A. Revilak and ten registered voters)

VOTED: **That no action be taken under Article 21.**

(4-0) Mr. Greeley was absent.

COMMENT: This article, inserted by citizen petition of Mr. Steve Revilek, sought to create a study group through Town Meeting to examine concerns by a number of residents regarding the use of surveillance technology to monitor and record persons in public spaces, and related issues. The Board agrees that the establishment of a study group is prudent to inventory and examine the landscape of surveillance issues in Arlington. However, the Board also believes that such a group would be more flexible and effective as a study group of the Board of Selectmen rather than a committee or body of Town Meeting. The Board will work with Mr. Revilek and other stakeholders to develop the membership and parameters of a study group on the intricate and important issues at work, and for only such reasons, recommend no action before Town Meeting.