

Pownal Select Board Special election to fill vacancy

To replace Raymond Joly, who resigned March 25

By Edward Damon

edamon@berkshireagle.com @BE_EDamon on Twitter

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POWNAL>> Select Board members say they want a special election to fill a vacancy on their board.

Members were in agreement on Thursday night they'd rather hold an election than appoint someone to the empty seat.

"I think it should be in the hands of the people," Chairman Ron Bisson said.

"I'm leaning towards a special election because there seems to be quite a few people interested," Vice Chairman Nelson Brownell said.

Select Board member Raymond "R.J." Joly resigned on March 25. He had just begun the second year in a three-year term, having been elected in 2015.

In a letter of resignation emailed to the Select Board, Joly took issue with how the town operates, saying that it's "about as poorly run as any government body could possibly be." In his letter, he also indicated he was dissatisfied with Select Board members and town employees.

Vermont statute allows for a Select Board to appoint someone to serve until the next election.

But members on Thursday said multiple community members have expressed interest in serving on the Select Board.

No date for the election was set on Thursday. Members said an election should be held "as soon as possible" and that they would have to coordinate with the Town Clerk's office to make sure it's posted and called correctly.

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Thursday's meeting was filmed by Catamount Access Television.

Contact Edward Damon at 413-770-6979

