If, at an election of town officers for which official ballots are used, there is a failure to elect a town officer, he may be elected at an adjourned or succeeding meeting; and ballots shall be prepared and furnished for such meeting, containing the nominations already made and such as may subsequently be made for the office.

The proceedings in such election and the qualifications of a person to be elected or appointed in case of failure to elect, refusal to accept or vacancy shall be the same as in an

original election.

If there is a failure to elect or a vacancy occurs in the office of selectman, the remaining selectmen or selectman may call a special election to fill the vacancy and shall call such election upon the request in writing of two hundred registered voters of the town, or twenty per cent of the total number of registered voters of the town, whichever number is the lesser; provided, that such request is filed with them or him not less than one hundred days prior to the date of the next annual election.

Approved March 9, 1954.

An Act providing for a competitive examination for Chap.202 patrolman in the police department of the town of westford, and establishing a maximum age limit therefor.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section 1. The director of civil service may, upon request of the appointing authority, hold an open competitive examination for patrolman in the town of Westford within six months after the effective date of this act. Notwithstanding any provision of law relative to the maximum age limits for applicants to a police department, such examination shall be open to any person who has not passed his forty-fifth birthday.

Section 2. This act shall be submitted to the voters of the town of Westford at the annual town meeting to be held in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-four in the form of the following question, which shall be placed upon the official ballot to be used for the election of town officers at said meeting, or shall be submitted to the voters of said town at a special town meeting called for the purpose in the form of the following question, which shall be placed upon the official ballot to be used at said special town meeting: — "Shall an act passed by the general court in the year nineteen hundred and fifty-four, entitled 'An act providing for a competitive examination for patrolman in the police department of the town of Westford, and establishing a maximum age limit therefor' be accepted?" If a majority of the votes in answer to said question is in the affirmative, then this act shall thereupon take full effect, but not otherwise. Approved March 9, 1954.