

## **Additional Written Remarks from Nearby Town Officials**

*“Typically, we will run a test vote in the beginning of the meeting to assure that the number of people that signed in to the meeting are being recorded, but once that is done these devices save time, allow anonymity, and allow the votes to be counted quickly. I have attended many meetings prior to adopting these and on a vote that is close it can take a while to count hands in the air. I do think that these are a big value add in the town meeting process.”*

-Steve Garrity, Town Moderator, Town of Orange

*“In Erving, we have decided to allow about 20 seconds for people to vote, so if they think they’ve hit the wrong button, they can revote. The system will only count the most recent received vote. What surprised us was that even on items that used to be passed by a unanimous voice vote, now always has a handful of no votes, so there is clearly some voter unrest and now they can feel as though their voice has been heard, rather than speaking out nay when they know it might only be them. [A town employee trained on the system] sits between me and the moderator. At the beginning of every meeting we have a couple of test votes to be sure all the clickers are working.”*

-Richard Newton, Town Clerk, Town of Erving