

*April 2007*

## Preliminary Special Election Results

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### *A close race with Passoni on top*

On April 17th the preliminary special election was held for the District 2 City Council seat vacated by the late James M. Kelly. The race, which began in late January, attracted many prospective candidates but has now been narrowed to two front runners - Susan Passoni and Bill Linehan.

Passoni, a former investment banker from the South End who ran unsuccessfully against Councilor Kelly in 2005, won Tuesday's preliminary with 1,869 votes, 24.2% of the 7,745 ballots cast. With only 37 fewer votes, Bill Linehan, a 20-year City Hall employee who has been a special assistant to Chief Operating Officer Dennis DiMarzio since 2001, came in second with 23.7% of the total ballots cast.

The turnout for Tuesday's election was fairly typical for a special preliminary election with 17.1% of the 45,311 registered voters casting ballots. Failing to emerge from the preliminaries were five prospective candidates - Edward M. Flynn (22.5%), Robert O'Shea (10.7%), Brian R. Mahoney (7.1%), Mary Cooney (6.8%), and Bob Ferrara (5.0%).

The final election is set for Tuesday, May 15 and promises to be a tight race. However, whoever prevails on May 15th will not be off the campaign trail for long. The regular City Council election is scheduled for November 6th.