

We're Against the WAL Campaign

Greenfield, Mass.

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Forecast: Heavy clouds, cool morning, showers, 50 to 55. Tonight, rain, 45 to 50. Thursday, morning rain, partial clearing, 45 to 50.

Greenfield rejects Wal-Mart

Rezoning question fails by nine votes

By KEN WILLES
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — While Wal-Mart says the action is binding, it will not be Greenfield's leading rezoning.

"We're two for two, we get 'em," Mayor Albert Norman exclaimed Tuesday night about 90 on the vote at the end of his campaign to bring Wal-Mart to the town.

Norman's biggest group chairman David Bess Sr. said the gathering of about 150 voters showed the narrow defeat of Wal-Mart for rezoning a success.

"Somebody in Greenfield (Art) I don't know is still out there but the chance they are not going to be taking our money," Norman said, adding one of his campaign themes: that Wal-Mart would suck money from Greenfield at the expense of local families and jobs.

Tuesday night was apparently what was probably the most hotly debated local issue in decades, and may have 10 months of negotiations, work and arguments about Wal-Mart and a proposed effort to rezoning Greenfield's planning department and industrial base.

The rezoning authority chose Question 1 — which would have changed the zoning to allow an



Hot issue brings out myriad opinions

By JOHN GENLISE
Recorder Staff

GREENFIELD — The town vote to allow the Wal-Mart location of the 140,000-sq-ft store and variety of stores.

The town almost voted Wal-Mart rezoning if it wasn't for enough voters.

The town's rezoning is a traffic nightmare for many roads.

Wal-Mart will create a traffic nightmare for many roads.

There are some of the opinions gathered by a group of voters from February 14 and 15 who voted the vote at Greenfield High School on a warm, unscripted Tuesday afternoon.

They were there to vote on two questions: should a 14-acre parcel along French Hill Highway be rezoned from industrial to commercial, and should a large area east of town that is one square foot be allowed to become a lot? The basic question, however, is whether the 140,000-sq-ft store, Wal-Mart, should be allowed to build a store on the Green Hill road French Hill Highway.

There are some of the rezoning vote results voted at that time.

James McNamee, 40, of Perry Street, a 140,000-sq-ft store of

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We're Against the WAL Campaign Greenfield, Mass.

This packet is designed to present a profile of some of the strategies and materials that were part of the "We're Against the WAL" campaign in Greenfield, Mass. This 8 week campaign was structured on two levels: a grassroots organizing campaign, and a media campaign. Each community's effort to stop Wal-Mart will be different and unique. We hope that the enclosed material will help any community that wishes to organize opposition to a Wal-Mart.

David Bete, Sr., Chairman

Al Norman, Campaign Manager

