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KCR

Board of Registrars Meeting- Monday, July 18, 2022

Meeting called to order at 1:07 p.m. at 215 B West State St, this was an in-person/telephone conference meeting held in the Town Clerk's office. Conference number 413-467-7178.

Present: Patricia Banas, Jeanne Crosby, Jeanne Merrill & Katherine Kelly-Regan

Joined in by phone was Patty Banas.

In-person- Jeanne Crosby, Jeanne Merrill, and Katherine A. Kelly-Regan

All Board members present.

Agenda:

To discuss the Changes of Election Advisory #22-01 changes to State Election Laws, Early Voting By-Mail and Voter Registration

The purpose of this Advisory is to familiarize the changes to state election laws that will impact the 2022 State Primary and State election, as well as local elections.

Agenda:

1. The Votes Act
2. Voter Registration Deadlines
3. Vote by Mail
4. Application Deadlines
5. Early Voting location and hours

Discussions:

The Votes Act: On June 22, 2022, "The Votes Act" was signed into law. The Vote Act makes several of the temporary changes from the pandemic permanent, it also makes the absentee voting process and early voting by mail processes consistent.

Voter Registration Deadlines this section now has been changed for Elections and town meetings to a 10-calendar day from the previous 20 calendar day.

In-house voter registration has been changed from 9am- 8 pm to 9am to 5 pm

Vote By Mail Effective immediately, early voting by mail must be available for all state elections, state primaries, and presidential primaries. Local elections may process Vote By Mail, however if the town wishes to opt out a vote by the Select Board 45 days before the election with a public hearing must be held.

Applications & Application Deadlines For State elections the Commonwealth will mail applications to all registered voters by the 60th day before the election. For local elections, the voter will be responsible to request an application.

Family members can request Early Vote By mail as well as Absentee request. Applications can be accepted on any form providing their signature is on the form.

Effective immediately, all new registered voters must have a Vote By mail application mail to them along with their acknowledgement when they register to vote through the mail.

The deadline to request a Vote By mail is 5 business days before the election.

Early Voting Hours & Location In-person mandated that all state and federal elections hold In-person Early voting that's state primaries, state elections, and presidential primaries. However, for local elections if the Select Board chooses to opt in for early-voting in-person at least two members of the Board of Registrars need to recommend.

Hours for Early-Voting are required for our size community to hold at least 4 hours on the weekends, and during the week the hours are what the town office hours are but encouraged to add hours if you want.

The Board of Registrars must vote on the location of the Early voting if not suitable to hold in the town clerk's office. The early voting site must be designated no later than 2 weeks before the beginning of early voting.

A notice must be posted in the clerk's office, or any other public building considered necessary and, on the town, and secretary's website.

End of discussions

Votes and Actions taken by the Board of Registrars State Election Laws #22-01:

1. **To Vote-The Votes Act:** To continue to follow the Elections policies with changes on voter registration deadlines, poll worker appointments, Vote By mail, In-person Early voting, and Early voting Locations.

All in agreement

Vote taken Passed- Unanimous.

Votes and Actions taken by the Board of Registrars Voter Registration & application deadlines:

2. **To Vote- Voter Registration Deadlines & application deadlines:** The Board of Registrars will take responsibility to notify the public on deadlines to register to vote and how to apply for Vote By Mail applications. The Registrars recommends publication by putting the voter registration and Vote By Mail application information on the cable station, in local newspapers, town website, and with the Annual Census.

All in agreement

Vote taken Passed-Unanimous.

Votes and Actions taken by the Board of Registrars Voter Registration:

3. **To Vote-Vote by Mail:** it was determined to continue to have Vote By Mail be part of the Town elections as well as for all state elections. This is optional for local elections however it was determined to keep everything uniform therefore it is recommended to have Vote By mail for all elections

All in agreement

Vote taken Passed-Unanimous

Votes and Actions taken by the Board of Registrars Voter Registration:

4. **To Vote-Early In-Person location and hours:**

The Granby Board of Registrars has agreed that the Town Clerk's office is NOT suitable to hold Early Voting, being that the Town Clerks office is located in a house, and the house contains three other town departments, Tax Collector, Board of Health and the Assessors, the parking (eight spaces), and the traffic of the voters would be overwhelming to the residents and an inconvenience for those doing regular town business.

It's been determined that the Carnegie Building AKA "Old Public Library" located on 1 Library Lane would be suitable for the Early Voting for the September 6, 2022, State Primary and for the November 8, 2022, State Election.

The building is handicap accessible with parking, and entrance to the building with a ramp; it also has parking for 12 cars in the back and about six cars in the front.

We have held the Early voting in this building since it started back in 2016.

We will have booths and tables set up for voting that will allow sixteen voters at a time to vote.

The times that have been determined to hold early voting for the State Primary as well as the State Election in November are as follows:

Hours for Early Voting State Primary (Tuesday, September 6, 2022)-

Weekend hours Saturday, August 27th 9 am-1 pm

Monday, August 29th-Thursday, Sept. 1st 9am-3 pm and Friday, September 2, 9am-12

Absentee voting will be held in the Town Clerk's office on September 2, from 9am- 5pm

Hours for Early Voting State Election (Tuesday, November 8, 2022)

Saturday, October 22nd 9 am-1 pm

Monday-Friday-October 24th-October 28th - 9 am – 4 pm

Saturday, October 29th 9 am-1 pm

Monday-Friday- October 31st-November 4th – 9am – 4 pm

Absentee voting will be held in the Town Clerk's office on Monday, November 7th until 12 noon.

All in agreement

Vote taken Passed-Unanimous

Working hours for the Board of Registrars for Voter Registrations, and for the preparations of the Town Meeting & Town Election will be determined as we get closer to those dates.

This concludes the Board of Registrars meeting held on Monday, July 18, 2022,

All in favor to adjourn

All in Favor- Unanimous.

The meeting of the Granby Board of Registrars held on July 18, 2022, is officially dissolved at 2:03 p.m.


Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, Town Clerk

Members:

Patricia Banas _____ Phone Call conference

Jeanne Crosby  _____ In-Person

Jeanne Merrill  _____ In-Person

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