

Board of Registrars Meeting- Wednesday, January 17, 2024

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. at 215 B West State St, this was held in-person in the Town clerk's office

Present: Patricia Banas, Michael LaBonte & Katherine Kelly-Regan, not present Jeanne Crosby

Agenda:

To discuss the Election Advisory #22-01 for state Election Laws, Early Voting By-Mail and Voter Registration

The purpose of this Advisory is to familiarize the changes since 2022 for state election laws that will impact the 2024 Presidential Primary, Town election, State Primary and Presidential Election.

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. This law makes the absentee voting process and early voting by mail processes consistent.

Voter Registration Deadlines this section since 2022 has changed for Elections and town meetings to a 10-calendar and the hours for In-house voter registration on the 10 days are 9am to 5 pm

Vote By Mail Requirements, 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 for requesting an application, with the exception when there is a Federal Election as there is one this year, the presidential primary, therefore, the voters will have the option to check "All Elections" and if they choose to do so that means the town will be required to mail them a ballot, unless the town opts out.

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.

All new registered voters, or voters who move to a different precinct in town must have a Vote By mail application mail to them along with their acknowledgement when they register to vote or changed their precinct 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 6 hours on the weekends, and during the week the hours are what the town office hours are, but we are encouraged to add hours if you want.

The Board of Registrars must vote on the location of the Early voting if it is 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 recommend publication by putting the voter registration and Vote By Mail application information on the cable station, in local newspapers, town websites, - 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 federal/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 Clerk's office is 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 Presidential Primary, State Primary and for the November 5, 2024, Presidential 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 Presidential Primary, State Primary as well as the State Election in November are as follows:

Hours for Early Voting Presidential Primary (Tuesday, March 5, 2024)-

Weekend hours Saturday, February 24th 9 am-3 pm -Closed Sunday

Monday, February 26th-Thursday, Thursday, February 29th 9am-3 pm and Friday, March 1st, 9am-12

Absentee voting will be held in the Town Clerk's office on March 4th, from 9 am- 12)

Local Election Monday, May 20th the Board feels that holding "In-Person" Early voting is not necessary on the local level, the voters have the option to vote by mail, file for an absentee in the town clerk's office until Friday, May 17th until 5 pm, or vote at the polls.

Hours for Early Voting State Primary (Tuesday, September 3, 2024)-

Weekend hours Saturday, August 24th 9 am-3 pm -Closed Sunday

Monday, August 26th-Thursday, August 29th 9am-3 pm and Friday, August 30th, 9am-12

Absentee voting will be held in the Town Clerk's office on Friday, August 30th, from 9am- 5pm

Hours for Early Voting State Election (Tuesday, November 5, 2024)

Saturday, October 19th 9 am-3 pm -Closed Sunday

Hours for Early Voting State Election (Tuesday, November 5, 2024)

Saturday, October 19th 9 am-3 pm -Closed Sunday

Monday-Friday-October 21st -October 25th - 9 am – 4 pm

Saturday, October 26th 9 am-3 pm-Closed Sunday

Monday-Friday- October 28th -November 1st – 9am – 4 pm

Absentee voting will be held in the Town Clerk's office on Monday, November 4th until 12 noon.

All in agreement

Vote taken Passed-Unanimous

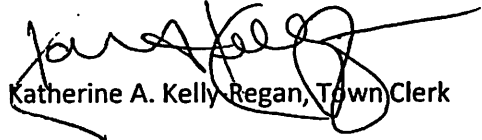
Working hours for the Board of Registrars for Voter Registrations, and for the preparations of the Town Meeting & Town Election will be determined as we get closer to those dates.

This concludes the Board of Registrars meeting held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024,

All in favor to adjourn

All in Favor- Unanimous.

The meeting of the Granby Board of Registrars held on January 17, 2024, is officially dissolved at 10:03 a.m.


Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, Town Clerk

Members:

Patricia Banas Patricia Banas

Jeanne Crosby _____

Michael LaBonte Michael E. LaBonte