

TOWN OF RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND
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Board of Canvassers
Town Hall – Council Chambers
July 19, 2022
10:30 A.M.

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 A.M.

Present: Chair Kenneth Michaud, Carolyn S. Richard, Eileen Burton and Town Clerk, Erin F. Liese.

Town Clerk Liese recognized the hard work of Ann, Kendra and Stephanie from the Town Clerk's Office in processing the extensive amount of candidate declarations and nomination forms. She further explained the increase in candidate turnout.

B. NEW BUSINESS

Please Note in Accordance with Section 42-46-6 (b) the Commission May Review, Discuss and/or take Action on the following items:

- 1) Certify Nomination Papers

The Board of Canvassers reviewed and certified the processed nomination papers.

Town Clerk Liese advised on the signature review process and qualification of papers.

- 2) Certify Local Questions to be placed on the General Election Ballot

Town Clerk Liese advised the Charter Commission had been formed last summer and they had recommended to the Town Council proposed amendments, which must appear on the November General Election Ballot for voter consideration. She explained the Council had approved 11 local questions to appear on the ballot, which needs to be approved by the Local Board of Canvassers.

MOTION made by C. Richards, SECOND by K. Michaud to certify the proposed 11 local questions to appear on the November General Election Ballot as presented: All Ayes

- 3) Primary Candidate Certification

Town Clerk Liese explained we currently have one primary for Republican Town Council and the listing of candidates need to be certified.

MOTION made by K. Michaud, SECOND by C. Richards to certify the local primary candidates as presented: All Ayes

- 4) Local Ballot Placement Lottery for Primary and General Election

Town Clerk Liese explained the local ballot placement lottery. She further explained endorsed candidates were to appear as ordered on the endorsement filings. She advised the unendorsed candidates would follow and today the only lottery to be conducted was for Independent candidates. She further advised the State would conduct a lottery for party placement and state candidates on Friday of this week.

The Local Ballot Placement Lottery was conducted and determined as follows:

September Primary Listing:

Republican School Committee Candidates:

- 1) P. Pouliot
- 2) K. Colasante

Republican Town Council Candidates

- 1) R. Nassaney
- 2) R. Pouliot
- 3) M. Colasante
- 4) H. Sheehan
- 5) M. Trimmer
- 6) J. Vaillancourt

General Election Listing:

Republican School Committee Candidates:

- 1) P. Pouliot
- 2) K. Colasante

Democrat School Committee Candidates

- 1) J. Purcell

Independent School Committee Candidates

- 1) R. Callahan
- 2) W. Day

Republican Town Council Candidates

*Top five will advance from the primary

Democrat Town Council Candidates

- 1) L. Cacciola
- 2) S. Wilcox
- 3) R. Newman

Independent Town Council Candidates

- 1) M. Reynolds
- 2) D. Madnick
- 3) J. Palmisciano

- 5) Determine Polling Location for the Primary

Town Clerk Liese explained that because we only have one local race we could request from the Board of Elections a combination of polls. She further explained that due to the centrality and recent use that

Richmond Town Hall would be the ideal location. However the Board of Elections preference was to utilize Richmond Elementary School.

Discussion ensued on the following concerns:

- 1) Security- Voting equipment will be securely stored in a locked vault here at Town Hall. We currently do not have a secure location at the School.
- 2) Voter Confusion- Town Hall has recently been used as the polling location for the Town of Richmond when we hold elections with one location. Using the school will further confuse voters especially when we hold non-title elections such as the school budget vote that is annually held at Town Hall every spring. Also, when a voter has a concern at the polling location it is easier for the voter to address those concerns with the Board of Canvassers and the Town Clerk's staff Located in Town Hall, preventing voter frustration from having to go to two locations.
- 3) Parking- Town Hall can provide more handicap parking then Richmond Elementary. There are only two spots at the Elementary School vs. Town hall that can have eight.
- 4) Safety- Police Chief has already shared his concern with safety detail. His preference was detail on Route 112 vs 138.
- 5) Burden- Utilizing Town Hall removes many logistics for elections. I do not need to utilize DPW department of School staff to remove, store and setup for the elections.

MOTION made by C. Richards, SECOND by E.Burton to request a polling combination request for the Primary with Richmond Town Hall as the voting location: All Ayes

- 6) Review of Poll workers

Town Clerk Liese advised on the need for poll workers for the General Election and explained training is on August 15th and August 24th.

- 7) Certification of Mail Ballots

Mail Ballots were reviewed and certified.

- 8) Schedule future meeting dates

The following dates were reviewed and scheduled:

August 2, 2022 at 2:00 P.M., August 25, 2022 at 2:00 P.M. and September 12, 2022 at 3:30 P.M.

C. ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION made by C. Richards, SECOND by K. Michaud to adjourn at 11:09 A.M.
All Ayes**

Respectfully submitted,

Erin F. Liese, CMC
Town Clerk