

**BOARD OF CANVASSERS
JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND
September 1, 2023**

An advertised meeting of the Board of Canvassers was called to order at 9:42 AM by Carol Nelson-Lee at 93 Narragansett Ave. The following member was present.

Hugh Murphy – Member
Ken Newman - Member

Absent: Kitty Wineberg - Alternate

Also present was: Keith Ford, Clerk to the Board of Canvassers
Interim Chief Angela Deneault
IT Consultant Michael Glier

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened with the Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote concerning the police presence at the polling location. Ms. Nelson-Lee commented that the Board of Canvassers has discretion over the area within 50ft of the polling location. Mr. Newman commented that he understands the issues with school security. The school department has to worry about the children and faculty, the Board must worry about voters. Police should be in the area as a deterrent but not always posted. Interim Chief Deneault commented that many of the people in attendance have the feeling of safety while an officer is around. A discussion ensued. Mr. Newman made a motion to have officers periodically, ever two hours for 5 minutes, also be present in the morning for the student arrivals and in the afternoon for dismissals with a second by Ms. Nelson-Lee. Vote: Ms. Nelson-Lee, Aye; Mr. Newman; Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Nay. Vote Passed

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion with Mr. Glier, the Town's IT Consultant, regarding the livestream and audio recording. She commented on the need of the livestream for government transparency. Mr. Glier had advised that this was not a requirement but a courtesy of the Town to livestream. Mr. Newman commented that the Board wants transparency and made a point that the board has never gone into executive session in any of their prior meetings. Mr. Murphy commented he did not think that this livestreaming was necessary as it's an open meeting people can attend and in the past was not well attended. A discussion ensued. Mr. Newman made a motion to request that every Board of Canvassers meeting be livestream and video/audio recorded with a second by Ms. Nelson-Lee. Vote: Ms. Nelson-Lee, Aye; Mr. Newman, Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Nay. Vote passed.

Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion of minutes from August 11, 2023. Mr. Newman made a motion to accept the minutes with a second by Ms. Nelson-Lee. Vote, Ms. Nelson-Lee, Aye; and Mr. Newman, Aye. Mr. Murphy abstained. Vote Passed. Ms. Nelson-Lee opened the discussion of the minutes from August 15, 2023. Mr. Newman made a motion to accept the minutes with a second by Ms. Nelson-Lee. Voted: Ms. Nelson-Lee. Aye; Mr. Newman Aye's; and Mr. Murphy abstained. Vote Passed. Ms. Nelson-Lee

opened the discussion of the minutes from August 17, 2023. Mr. Murphy made a motion to accept the minutes with a second by Ms. Nelson-Lee. Voted: Ms. Nelson-Lee, Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Newman abstained.

Ms. Nelson-Lee started the discussion of the Congressional District 1 Primary (CD1) on September 5, 2023. Mr. Ford commented that students will be being dropped off by buses on Watson Ave, Walkers will be entering the school by Watson Ave as well, and parent drop-off will be happening at both the front of the school and Watson Ave. The schedule for the CD1 Primary will be 1 clerk, 1 moderator, 4 supervisors, all 4 Board members and Fred Pease. Mr. Ford will be posting signs at the Recreation Center to redirect voters to the correct location. Don Carlson withdrawal signs will be posted at the polling place, check-in tables and privacy booths. Equipment has already been delivered to the school and is secured. New regulation requires that a mail ballot receptacle be placed on a table with 10ft of the supervisor table and must be monitored.

Ms. Nelson-Lee moved to the next agenda item which was the review, discussion and/or action and/or vote for the certification of emergency mail ballot applications. All board members present signed the emergency mail ballot certification sheets.

Mr. Newman made a motion to adjourn with a second by Mr. Newman. Voted: Ms. Nelson-Lee, Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Newman, Aye. Meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM.

Attest:



Keith Ford
Clerk to the Board of Canvassers

Cc: Town Council Members (5)
Board of Canvassers (4)
Roberta Fagan, Town Clerk