

JAMESTOWN BOARD OF CANVASSERS MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025

2:30 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL

A meeting of the Board of Canvassers was called to order at 2:50 P.M. at 93 Narragansett Ave in the Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers. Board of Canvassers Members present were as follows: Mr. Kenneth Newman, Mr. Hugh Murphy, and Ms. Jennifer Thran. Absent from the meeting was Ms. Katherine Wineberg.

Also in attendance was Keith Ford, Deputy Town Clerk/Clerk to the Board of Canvassers.

II. MINUTES

- A) Approval of Minutes; Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote:
 - 1) Board of Canvassers meeting of January 15, 2025.

Mr. Newman opened the agenda item for the above minutes. Mr. Murphy made a motion to accept the meeting minutes presented with a second by Mr. Newman. Vote: Mr. Newman, Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Aye. Vote Passed unanimously.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote: 2025-2026 Budget discussions.
 - 1) Board of Canvassers Stipend Increase
 - 2) Poll Worker Pay Increase

Mr. Newman opened the agenda item for the 2025-2026 Budget discussions. Mr. Ford commented that the budget figures that he and Mr. Murphy completed have been submitted to the Town Administrator. There will budget meeting workshops on March 4th and March 10th both at 5:00 P.M. here at the Town Hall. Mr. Newman commented that he will be present for these workshops and believes that members of the Elections Training and Advisory Committee should be present as well. The budget that was put together is a really good budget but we will have competing issues within the town where we may be able to get one increase this year and push for the second increase next year. Mr. Murphy agreed commenting that Board of Canvassers stipend increase should be pushed for first, since there is no scheduled election this year but we should wait and see what the town presents. *A Discussion Ensued.* No Action/Vote Taken.

- B) Review, Discussion, and/or Action, and/or Vote: Status of Jamestown Elections Training and Advisory Committee.

Mr. Newman opened the agenda item for the Status of the Elections Training and Advisory Committee (ETAC) commenting that the committee is in need of at least one (1) republican as the committee is bi-partisan and must have members of both parties prior to meeting. He asked that Mr. Murphy and Ms. Thran to assist in finding someone. Mr. Ford commented he has reached out to Ms. Mary Lou Sanborn the Republic Town Committee Chair to ask for assistance in locating an interested party. Mr. Newman commented that the Executive Director of the Board of Elections Miguel Nunez is interested in attending an ETAC meeting in the future. *A Discussion Ensued.* No Action/Vote Taken.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- A) Review, Discussion, and/or Action, and/or Vote: 2025 Financial Town Meeting to be held on June 2, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Newman opened the agenda item of the 2025 Financial Town Meeting; this is not a Title 17 Election but is conducted like a Title 17 Election. Mr. Ford has requested from the Board of Elections equipment to conduct the election. Included in the request is for privacy booths rather than using tables for voting. This will make for a more private voting experience, in the past we have used tables with no privacy. We will have 2 DS-200's, an express vote and poll pads. Mr. Murphy commented that he would prefer an all-day referendum which will make it less intimidating for voters. *A discussion ensued.* The all-day referendum will be discussed at a future meeting. Mr. Ford added that the future Final Canvass date is tentatively for Thursday, May 8th at 2:00 P.M. all members present agreed. No Action/Vote Taken.

V. Open Forum

No items/individuals for open forum.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murphy made a motion to adjourn with a second by Mr. Newman. Vote: Mr. Newman, Aye; and Mr. Murphy, Aye. Vote Passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 3:23 P.M.

Attest:



Keith Ford
Deputy Town Clerk/Clerk to the Board of Canvassers

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