

TOWN OF CHESTER

Board of Civil Authority

Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2024

Present: Deborah Aldrich, Amie O'Brien, Heather Chase, Jessica Krust, Philip Perlah, Peter Hudkins, Gerald Gleason, Kenneth Barrett, Patricia Budnick, Arne Jonynas, Marilyn Mahusky, Tuckerman Wunderle, Russell Monier

1. REVIEW POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION DAY

Heather Chase called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. She explained the meeting was to go over and discuss the Elections Policies and Procedures. Deborah Aldrich made a few changes to them since the last time the document was reviewed. Deborah Aldrich explained the changes pertained to election security and cyber security. Each section was reviewed one by one.

Deborah Aldrich explained to the board that there will be two of the newer style voting booths added for voters to use on election day. This will take away some of the older style booths with the curtains but there will still be some of the older style set up for people to utilize.

Gerald Gleason asked if it was ok to allow two people into one booth to vote. Deborah Aldrich explained that it is allowed. Some people might need help voting for many different reasons. Election officials have been asked to help people vote at times.

2. OTHER BUSINESS

Deborah Aldrich explained that there are three elections in 2024. The dates are March 5, 2024, August 13, 2024, and November 5, 2024. The March election is for Town Meeting, the GMUSD budget, and Presidential Primary. The August election is the Statewide Major Party Primary, and the November election is the General Election. The state will be mailing all ballots to all voters for the General Election.

This will be the second year using the new tabulator. Gerald Gleason asked if the mailed in ballots can be put through the machine early. She explained that we can do that, but never have.

Before every election, the BCA receives a voter list of people that have been purged, added, or transferred since the last election. She asked that everyone take a copy to review.

Gerald Gleason asked if the board's help is needed on election day. Deborah Aldrich stated that the board could help count school ballots after the close of election. Arne Jonynas asked how many voters are on the check list and how many people voted. Deborah Aldrich stated she did not have the exact number of voters on the checklist and participation depends on the type of election it is. More people tend to vote in a presidential race year than in other years.

A motion was made by Patricia Budnick to adjourn. Seconded by Gerald Gleason. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Amie O'Brien  
Assistant Town Clerk