

TOWN OF NORTHBRIDGE

BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Minutes of the August 17, 2015 Meeting

Meeting Place: Town Hall
7 Main Street
Whitinsville MA

Present: Registrars Sandra Ovian (Democrat), Mary Contino (Democrat), Ann Riley (Republican) and Town Clerk Doreen Cedrone (Republican).

Ms. Ovian called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Contino moved that the Board of Registrars vote to approve and accept as submitted the minutes from the August 18, 2014 meeting. Ms. Riley seconded the motion. The vote to accept the minutes of the August 18, 2014 meeting passed unanimously.

Board Reorganization: Ms. Riley moved that the Board of Registrars vote to appoint Mary Contino as Chair. Ms. Cedrone seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously. Ms. Ovian moved that the Board vote to appoint Ann Riley as Vice Chair. Ms. Cedrone seconded the motion, and the vote passed unanimously. Ms. Cedrone will remain as Clerk.

Appointment of election workers: Ms. Cedrone explained that, like last year, the Northbridge Board of Selectmen did not meet between July fifteenth and August fifteenth; therefore, the Board of Selectmen could not do the annual appointment of election officers. Per MGL, Chapter 54, Section 12, "*In the event that the selectmen fail to appoint such election officers on or before August fifteenth, the board of registrars of voters shall forthwith appoint said officers.*"

In reviewing the lists, Ms. Contino stated she knew that one person on the list had moved out of Northbridge recently. Ms. Cedrone made a note of that information. There being no more comments or corrections to the three lists provided (Democrats, Republicans, and Unenrolled election workers), Ms. Riley moved that the list of election workers (attached) as provided by Ms. Cedrone be approved. Ms. Contino seconded the motion. The vote was approved unanimously.

Ms. Cedrone added that before each election, she and the Assistant Town Clerk hold training sessions for the election workers. Ms. Cedrone reported that during this past year, she decided to hold the training sessions at the Senior Center, and it worked out very well due to great parking and the excellent surroundings and setup at the Senior Center!

Registrars work schedule for FY 2016: Ms. Cedrone explained that because the schedules/life styles of each registrar are so different, sometimes their schedules prevent them from being available to do registrar work. Therefore, Ms. Cedrone suggested that each registrar work 25 hours during the fiscal year and that the 25 hours would certainly include the one hour at each Town Meeting check-in table as well as voter registration sessions. However, if a registrar could not work a Town Meeting or a voter registration session, the hours could be worked in the Town Clerk's office assisting with absentee ballots, filing, etc. Ms. Contino suggested that we try this for one year and see how it works out for everyone involved. Ms. Cedrone moved that the members of the Board of Registrars (Ms. Ovian, Ms. Contino, and Ms. Riley)

each work 25 hours as a registrar during FY16. Ms. Riley seconded the motion, and the vote was approved unanimously.

Town Clerk's report on training by the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth: Ms. Cedrone explained that there is a new election law that requires training of City and Town Clerks by the Elections Division, Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. She explained that the new law also requires that the Clerks inform the Registrars of the training. Therefore, Ms. Cedrone explained that the July 2015 training included information and instructions for online voting registration and provided details regarding nomination papers for Town Committees. Ms. Cedrone reported that per the new law she had to acknowledge to the Election Division's director that she read and understood the training material.

There being no further business to discuss, Ms. Riley moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. Ms. Ovia seconded the motion, and it was approved by all to adjourn the meeting.

Prepared by: 
Doreen A. Cedrone

Approved and accepted: November 18, 2016