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BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING OF September 17, 2020

The Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Morristown, notified and warned, met in the Conference Room at the Municipal Office Building, 43 Portland Street in said town on Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

BCA Members present:

Justice of the Peace: Darcie Abbene (phone), Donald Blake, Edward Wilson, Eric Dodge (phone), Monte Mason, Peg Demars, Ronald Stancliff, Shap Smith, Shelley Nolan, Siri Rooney (phone) and Urban Martin.

Selectboard: Brian Kellogg

Clerk: Sara Haskins

- Edward Wilson called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.
- Sara Haskins added processing absentee ballots early to the agenda.
- ***Upon motion by Ron Stancliff and seconded by Peg Demars the minutes of June 29, 2020 were approved. (13/0)***
- The Board discussed feedback from the August 2020 primary. Overall feedback from the community and BCA members was positive that voters felt safe and everyone working the polls were helpful and friendly. The only concern was that the VFW bar and porch were open during polling hours where people were exiting the polling place.
- The Board discussed setting the hours and polling location for the November 3, 2020 General Election. Due to the overall success at the VFW and the COVID-19 pandemic the Board felt that the bigger polling location should be used again to allow more social distancing and to have a separate entrance and exit into the polling location. ***Shap Smith made a motion to set the VFW as the polling place for the November 3, 2020 General Election from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Peg Demars seconded the motion. Motion passed. (13/0)***
- Ed Wilson and Shap Smith agreed to deliver ballots to any voters who are ill or have disabilities and request home delivery.
- The Board discussed the upcoming election, poll work schedules and procedures and responsibilities. Sara asked all BCA members to email her their availability to work the general election in order to see if more election officials would be needed and let the Board know that many community members had reached out to offer to help. Overall members felt the layout and flow of traffic worked well for the primary and offered a few modifications for

an increase in expected voters at the General Election. Sara explained the process for absentee ballots for this Election and that the Secretary of State will mail all active voters their ballots. Ed Wilson asked questions about poll watchers rights.

- Sara Haskins shared her positive experience during the primary regarding the processing of absentee ballots in the tabulator prior to election day allowed based on the Secretary of State First Statewide Directive on July 20, 2020. The BCA members that helped with the process all spoke in favor of it. ***Monte Mason made a motion to allow early processing of ballots at 2:00 PM on Oct 7, Oct 14, Oct 21, Oct 28 and Nov 2, 2020. Shelley Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed (13/0).***
- Sara Haskins presented a list of changes to the voter checklist since the last time reviewed on August 7, 2020. There are currently 3992 voters on the Morristown checklist. There have been 83 new voter registrations, 10 voters challenged, 14 voters purged and 42 voters transferred to other towns in Vermont. The BCA reviewed the changes. ***Shap Smith made a motion to accept the changes to the voter checklist as presented. Shelley Nolan seconded the motion. Motion passed. (13/0)***

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM upon motion by Peg Demars and seconded by Shelley Nolan.

Respectfully submitted and filed this 18th day of September 2020.
Sara Haskins, Clerk- Board of Civil Authority

Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next BCA meeting.