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BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING January 5, 2021

The Board of Civil Authority of the Town of Morristown, notified and warned, met remotely on Tuesday, January 6, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

BCA Members present:

Justice of the Peace: Donald Blake, Edward Wilson, Rhoda Bedell, Ronald Stancliff, Shap Smith, Shelley Nolan, Siri Rooney and Urban Martin.

Selectboard: Judy Bickford and Brian Kellogg

Clerk: Sara Haskins

- Sara Haskins called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.
- There were no changes or additions.
- ***Upon motion by Rhoda Bedell and seconded by Shelley Nolan the minutes of September 17, 2020 were approved. (11/0)***
- The Board discussed feedback from the 2020 General Election. Overall feedback from the community and BCA members was positive, that voters felt safe and everyone working the polls were helpful and friendly.
- Sara Haskins informed the Board that Act 162 allowed the Selectboard to apply the Australian Ballot system to the 2021 Annual meetings as restrictions due to COVID-19 do not allow for large gatherings. The Board discussed setting the hours and polling location for the upcoming elections. 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, to have a separate entrance and exit into the polling location and for consistency for the voters. ***Shelley Nolan made a motion to set the VFW as the polling place for the 2021 Annual Town & Lamoille South Unified Union School District Meetings from 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM. Judy Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed. (11/0)***
- The Board discussed the upcoming elections. Overall members felt the layout and flow of traffic worked well for the General Election. The Board asked Sara to mail postcards to all active voters explaining that the Annual Town Meeting would be conducted by Australian Ballot, the new polling location, how to request an absentee ballot and how to obtain a Town Report. They also asked her to check in with the school to see if they would like to include their information on the postcard and share the cost to mail it. Sara explained the potential legislation being considered regarding mailing all active voters their ballots. The Board felt

that if the legislation passes that the Selectboard should vote to continue to mail ballots only as requested.

- Sara Haskins presented a list of changes to the voter checklist since the last time reviewed on September 17, 2020. There are currently 4105 voters on the Morristown checklist. There have been 74 new voter registrations, 72 voters challenged, 35 voters purged and 37 voters transferred to other towns in Vermont. The BCA reviewed the changes. ***Urban Martin made a motion to accept the changes to the voter checklist as presented. Rhoda Bedell seconded the motion. Motion passed. (11/0)***

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM upon motion by Shap Smith and seconded by Judy Bickford.

Respectfully submitted and filed this 6th day of January, 2021.
Sara Haskins, Clerk- Board of Civil Authority