

Board of Civil Authority

11/10/2021

The Board of Abatement met at 6:00 pm in the Town Office building for discussion of the state wide redistricting.

Present were: Selectboard Member & Chair of BCA Kevin Oddy, Selectboard member Frank Empsall, Selectboard member Dennis Smith, Town Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Jewell, Anne Cosgrove, Diane Holmes, Robert Holmes, Stephanie Churchill, David Brown, Jim Courchesne, Will Rivers, Durward Ellis, Scott Beck, Scott Campbell, and Dana Gray.

Chairman Oddy went over the proposed redistricting map and what it would mean for the town. The proposal would cut the town in half along route 5 and make 2 districts. CAL-3 would include about 500 people from Lyndonville, CAL 6 would only be St. Johnsbury residents. This would only affect August and November elections. The change would mean the town would have to have to separate polling districts, and all cost would be doubled.

Scott Campbell stated there are currently 44 two member districts.

Scott Beck stated the proposal passed by 4-3, and it will still have to go through the whole legislative process, starting with House Government Operations.

There was discussion from the members about the cost and finding extra volunteers to work.

None of the members were in favor of the proposal which would split the town in half. They did agree that if we need more numbers to keep us from getting split that we should be merged with a whole town, such as Kirby or Waterford. Small towns should not be split up, it confuses the voters and is more costly to the towns and the state.

Town Clerk Stacy Jewell asked for members to have their comments to her by Monday November 15, so she could submit them to the state.

Minutes written by: Stacy Jewell _____

Minutes approved by: Kevin Oddy _____