

Board of Civil Authority

Wednesday February 6, 2019

The Board of Civil Authority met at 5:30 in the Pomerleau building for it organizational meeting.

Present were: Chairman Kevin Oddy, Town Clerk/Treasurer Stacy Jewell, Anne Cosgrove, Conrad Doyon, Diane Holmes, Mark Bickford, Pierre Berube, Will Rivers, Stephanie Churchill, Lisa Rivers, Abby Pollender, Dennis Smith, Durward Ellis, David Brown, Al Dunn, Lynn Wurzburg, Karen Bufka.

There was no public comment. The Town Clerk/Treasurer asked for an addition to the agenda regarding the Dolgin assessment appeal. There was no objections, it was added to the end of the agenda.

Town Clerk had all Justice of Peace raise their right hand and repeat the oath of office. Oaths will be signed and recorded in BCA book.

Conrad Doyon nominated Kevin Oddy to be Chair of the Board, seconded by Al Dunn, vote was unanimous.

Anne Cosgrove nominated Mark Bickford to be Vice Chair of the Board, seconded by Stephanie Churchill, vote was unanimous.

Lynn Wurzburg & Karen Bufka of League of Women voters asked the board about changing the polling hours to open at 7:00 AM. They had people express their interest in this during the last 2 elections. There was a lot of discussion regarding absentee ballots and early voting in the town office, volunteers to work the polls at that time, and the school being open for us to be setup and ready to go at 7:00. On a motion by Stephanie Churchill, seconded by Dennis Smith, to have them come back in August with either a petition for opening at 7:00 or written statements. Vote was unanimous.

A motion by Dennis Smith, seconded by Will Rivers to continue to vote at the town school, vote was unanimous.

Town Clerk read over the new Campaign Sign policy outside of the polling location. See attached policy.

A refresher on what constitutes a vote, and a tally sheet was done. Town Clerk will made some training packets and hold a training meeting on February 27.

The following have volunteered to deliver ballots at Town Meeting: Dave Brown, Mark Bickford, Will Rivers, Pierre Berube, and Abby Pollender.

A meeting for tax abatement was scheduled for March 27, maybe changed based on Assessor reappraising property.

A discussion was had regarding Steve Dolgin appeal on 172 North Ave. The town clerk spoke with the state and it may be six more months before they can get here to hear his appeal. Options of the board were to negotiate and settle with Mr. Dolgin, or wait for the state to hear his case. On a motion by Stephanie Churchill to recommend to the selectboard to wait for the state to hear the case, motion was seconded by Mark Bickford. The vote was 11 yes, 1 no, 3 abstained. Pierre Berube was the no, Kevin Oddy, Stacy Jewell, and Dennis Smith abstained. It will go to the selectboard at their next regular meeting.

7:00 PM, motion by Stephanie Churchill, seconded by Diane Holmes to adjourn the meeting.

Minutes written by: Stacy Jewell Stacy Jewell

Minutes approved by: Kevin Oddy Kevin Oddy

TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

CAMPAIGN SIGN POLICY OUTSIDE OF POLLING PLACE

- Persons may have campaign signs outside polling place in designated area. Designated areas at the Town School are: along the fence, under the overhang of auditorium, or grass area by bell. No one can be blocking the doors, side walk, driveway or parking lot at any time.
- Signs may **NOT** be unattended. If you leave the polling location your sign must come down or you must have someone else there to attend to it.
- Each person may have **ONE** sign that can either be planted in the ground or held up.
- Anyone campaigning in this manner must comply with 17 VSA 2508. This policy is made pursuant to 17 VSA 2508(b).