Election Commission

Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2022

Council Chambers and Virtual

Present: Commissioners John McDermott, Jan Huffman, Marjorie Ann Butler, Nancy Levine

Also present: Carol Moore - City Clerk

To listen to the entire meeting:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/O0XX3Lx2OIWx1aF0i0A_yI54FMEQy27Of18Xyualg9f3xbOxlLQBhTGS RQIP1DUmNeNSo8eg3HuJJ6Ks.9Z2yczFYYXuLy_bB

Voter Challenge – 27 Kerry Court

Clerk Moore explained the circumstances for the official Voter Challenge filed by Evelyn Burris against two voters connected with her home address. After some extensive research, the Clerk's office showed no changes to the challenged voters' addresses until a Census form was returned by both voters with addresses outside of Newton. The Census Coordinator updated their status and removed them from Newton Voter lists. Clerk Moore explained that the formal challenge was not necessary.

Discussion and Selection of Chairperson

The Election Commission discussed with the City Clerk the method of selecting the Chair by yearly rotation. Commissioner McDermott motioned to elect Nancy Levine as Chair, seconded by Commissioner Huffman was approved unanimously.

Other Business

Clerk Moore provided an update on Election news within the Clerk's office. The 2022 Census confirmation cards were being printed and expected to be mailed out in mid-June. Clerk Moore explained that this is the second printing for the Census to catch any residents that missed the first Census mailing. There was also a discussion among Election Commissioners about Nomination papers and the certification of signatures.

The Commissioner inquired into the status of the purchase of new tabulators. Clerk Moore explained that LHS provided a demonstration of their new machines with Commissioners Huffman and Butler present. Commissioners McDermott and Levine requested the LHS brochure. City Clerk Moore stated she would send LHS the request. The other State certified tabulator is from ES&S and Clerk Moore would set up that demonstration in the fall. Clerk Moore did not want to move forward with a decision until a new Election Supervisor was hired and we could present all findings to the Election Commission.

Ms. Moore discussed the staffing shortages and recent departure of Assistant City Clerk Chris Sullivan. The Clerk's office has all open positions posted and actively recruiting.

The meeting ended at 7:24 PM.