TOWN OF HYDE PARK BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING

June 1, 2020

Virtual Meeting Via Conference Call Due to COVID-19

Present: Selectboard – Roger Audet, Susan Bartlett, Justices of the Peace – Brickett Bailey, Richard Bailey, Vicki Emerson, Ed French, Riki French, Mary "Pixie" Loomis, Brian Shackett; Town Treasurer/Town Clerk – Kimberly Moulton

Others Present: No others present

S. Bartlett called the meeting to order at 6:22pm.

1) Exit Checklist at Polls:

Chairman Bartlett stated that after Tow Meeting she and Kim had a discussion about some options that we could take advantage of and turned the meeting over to K. Moulton. K. Moulton stated that she would like the BCA to consider doing away with the exit checklist at the polls. K. Moulton stated that she has talked to Clerks in numerous towns who have done this. At the end of the night on Town Meeting Day this year, it took over an hour to reconcile the two lists together. The exit checklist is not required by statute but does require the BCA to vote to stop using it.

E. French stated that we are entering into an election that could be contentious and could be challenged. He stated that we should wait until after this election cycle to reconsider this.

After general discussion there was a consensus to keep the exit checklist.

2) Appointing Election Workers

Chairman Bartlett turned the meeting over to K. Moulton. K. Moulton stated that she is reviewing election statutes and tightening up election procedures. The BCA is responsible for appointing election workers. We have been working with a list of people who have been on our list but some of our election workers are aging out. K. Moulton stated that she needs to add more people to the list of election workers. The BCA could either authorize K. Moulton to appoint people or they could meet to do that.

After general discussion, a motion was made by E. French and seconded by R. Bailey to have the Town Clerk prepare a list of potential election workers that will be approved by the BCA at a meeting prior to the election. The motion passed by a voice vote unanimously.

3) Other Business

K. Moulton stated that there is a mechanism in statute that allows us to meet the day before an election to open absentee ballots and feed them into the tabulator. We are expecting a very high turnout in absentee ballots and in person voting. K. Moulton stated that by meeting the day before the election to process the absentee ballots, it frees up the election workers to focus on the in-person voters on election day. S. Bartlett agreed that this would be a good system to implement.

Motion to adjourn at 6:53pm. The motion passed by voice vote unanimously.