

ROXBURY BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2018
7:00PM - 7:18PM

MEMBERS: Gerry D'Amico, Jeremy Reed, Dave McShane, Chuck Slocum, Adam Jackson, Sue Nevins and Tammy Legacy

ABSENT: Steve Twombly and Gloria Gerdes

PUBLIC: None

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM.

2. Town Clerk, Tammy Legacy, asked the Board to consider acquiring a vote tabulator machine. Adam asked for history of the request. Tammy explained that over the years the subject has been brought before the BCA. In the past the BCA had decided they like the tradition of counting ballots by hand. The last couple of years, some of the BCA members had mentioned they would like to have a vote tabulator machine. It was mentioned at the Primary Election in August and Tammy was asked to bring it before the BCA. The BCA must approve a machine in order for it to be used at elections. If the Board votes to have it, the machine will be used at the General Election in November. Tammy explained that mistakes are normally made by hand count towns not tabulator towns. This has become clear during recounts performed by the State. Tammy has spoken to the Fayston Town Clerk. The information Tammy received was the cost per election to Towns is between \$600 to \$1,000, machines are very accurate, the BCA would need to count all write-ins, end of night procedures are finished a lot earlier than hand count towns, over votes would be kicked out and the tabulator counts under votes. Tammy was told by the Secretary of State's Office that the machine would be paid for by the State and half the programming would be paid by the State. A lot of Town's do not use the machine for local elections due to the cost. Town Officials/employees will be trained prior to the November election.

Dave moved to acquire a vote tabulator machine for the General Election. The motion was seconded. The motion passed with 5 in favor and two abstaining.

Gerry asked if the BCA did not like the machine, could they stop using it. Tammy did not know the answer to the question.

3. Tammy brought before the Board the subject of political signs. The subject was brought up during the last State election when signs were being placed on Town property. Tammy explained to the BCA that the Presiding Officer is responsible for signs on Election Day. Tammy would like to prohibit signs on the common in front of the office; Tammy feels the Community Hall driveway to the Town Office driveway is the polling location. She would like to allow signs on the former Garner property. People are allowed to hold signs as long as they do not interfere with voters entering and exiting the polling location (First Amendment Rights).

The BCA wondered if prohibiting signs on Town property would be best. Tammy explained that she could not patrol all Town properties. During Town Meeting, signs would not be allowed at on School property.

Dave recommended allowing Tammy to decide on signs. Jeremy moved to concur with the Presiding Officer to forbid signs at the polling location. The motion was seconded. The motion passed. (Tammy will create a policy and bring it to the next board meeting).

4. Dave moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:18PM .

Tammy Legacy, Town Clerk