BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY MEETING

MINUTES

JULY 10, 2023

1. Elect A Chairperson- Town Clerk, Zachary Brown, asked for nominations for chairperson to preside over the meeting. Mike made a motion to elect Renee as the chairperson for tonight's meeting; Mark seconded this motion. Zach asked if there was any discussion on the motion. Seeing no discussion, Zach called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Renee accepted the role.
2. Open Meeting- Chairperson Renee Marchesseault called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. Those present included: Zachary Brown, Town Clerk; Renee Marchesseault, Fern Owen, Katie Sawicki, Frank Sawicki Jr.(Justices of the Peace); Alfred Buckley, Mark Bullard, and Michael Daley (Selectboard). No members of the public were present.
3. Review New Applicants- Zach distributed a list (attached) of all new applicants since the previous meeting on February 20, 2023. The Town has added seventeen new voters to the voter checklist. Renee asked if these additions had come directly from the DMV. Zach told her all but two had, but the DMV later verified them. Mike made a motion to accept the addition of the new applicants to the voter checklist; Al seconded this motion. Chairperson Marchesseault called for discussion on the motion; seeing none, she called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative.
4. Biannual Purge and Challenge of the Checklist-
   1. Biannual Purge- Zach presented the board with a list of all voters who had been challenged previously. On the top of the list, Zach highlighted twelve challenged voters who could now be purged from the checklist. Zach explained that these voters had been challenged previously, and two general elections had passed without any response being received from these voters. Zach explained that statutorily could now be purged from the voter checklist. The board reviewed the twelve names. Mark made a motion to purge the twelve names from the checklist, and Katie seconded this motion. Chairperson Marchesseault called for any further discussion; seeing none, she called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Zach will purge these names from the checklist.
   2. Biannual Systematic Challenging- Zach presented the board with a list of his recommendations for individuals on the checklist that he believed should be challenged based on recent sales of properties and other indicators. The board reviewed the list name but name and had a short discussion on each. The board decided to remove two names from the challenge list. One, they reside at the Coos County Nursing Home but are still considered a Canaan Resident. The second person as they have sold their house but still resides in Canaan. Mike made a motion to accept the list of names Zach presented to be challenged, minus Francoise Bohan and Francis Doe; Frank seconded this motion. Chairperson Marchesseault called for any further discussion on the motion; seeing none, she called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Zach will send out challenge letters tomorrow.
5. Other Business- Zach informed the Board of Civil Authority that the next planned election will be held on Town Meeting Day 2024. Coinciding with this election is the Presidential Primaries, so the Town will need all hands on deck for this election. No other business was discussed.
6. Adjourn Meeting- Mike made a motion to adjourn the July 10, 2023, Board of Civil Authority meeting; Al seconded this motion. Chairperson Marchesseault called for a vote. The motion passed unanimously in the affirmative. Chairperson Marchesseault adjourned the meeting at 5:46 PM.