

**MINUTES
REMOTE SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY (BCA)**

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2020

Meeting convened at 6:30 p.m. via GoToMeeting telephone/video conference. There was no physical meeting place for this meeting. This meeting was audio recorded via GoToMeeting.

Board members present: Chair William Graves, Steven Adler, Dylan Ford, Benjamin Gates, Benjamin Heisholt, Mark Jefferson, Susan Jensen, Dennis McLam, Stanley Robinson, and Shellie Samuels.

Other Town officers present: None

Members of the public present: None

1. Consideration of, and take any action on, vote to require Town of Barnet to use a vote tabulator for registering and counting of votes in subsequent local election(s), pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2491(a)*

The Board briefly reviewed 17 V.S.A. § 2491(a), which states that the Board “may, at a meeting held not less than 60 days prior to an election and warned pursuant 24 V.S.A. § 801, vote to require the political subdivision for which it is elected to use vote tabulators for the registering and counting of votes in subsequent local, primary, or general elections, or any combination of those.” The Board noted that, pursuant to Act 162 of the Vermont Legislature, the Barnet Selectboard has voted to hold the 2021 Annual Town Meeting by Australian ballot. The Board reviewed informational materials presented by Town Clerk Benjamin Heisholt. These included a quote from tabulator vendor LHS Associates, which indicates the cost for using the tabulator for Town Meeting may be between \$1,500 and \$2,000. These materials also included a preliminary warning, suggesting there may be approximately thirty (30) articles on the ballot. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Gates moved to require the Town of Barnet to use a vote tabulator for registering and counting of votes in the 2021 Annual Town Meeting. Seconded by Mr. Adler. Discussion ensued. Mr. Gates moved to call the question. A roll call vote was taken, with the following result: Yea: 7 (Mr. Adler, Mr. Graves, Mr. Heisholt, Mr. Jefferson, Ms. Jensen, Mr. Robinson, and Ms. Samuels); Nay: 3 (Ms. Ford, Mr. Gates, and Mr. McLam). Motion approved.

2. Other business

a. 2021 Annual Town Meeting polling location

Town Clerk Mr. Heisholt noted that the polling location for the Australian ballot vote for the 2021 Annual Town Meeting has not been established and that while the Barnet Elementary School is the standard location for Annual Town Meeting, in order to establish a different location, a vote of the Board must be taken. Mr. Heisholt also noted that this item was not warned for this meeting, so a vote on it may not be appropriate. Mr. Adler suggested that the Board should vote at this time, and vote again at a later date if deemed necessary. Discussion ensued.

- Mr. Adler moved to hold the 2021 Annual Town Meeting Australian ballot election at the Fire & Rescue Station at 151 Bimson Drive. Seconded by Mr. Gates. A roll call vote was taken, with the following result: Yea: 10; Nay: 0. Motion approved unanimously.

3. Adjournment

- Mr. McLam moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Gates and approved by voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

A true record.

Attest: _____
Town Clerk