

Town of Richmond Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes 1/10/212

Members Present: Christine Werneke, David Sander, Bard Hill, June Heston, Jay Furr

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Josh Arneson, Town Manager, Linda Parent, Town Clerk; Kyle Kapitnaski, Police Chief

Others Present: Meeting was recorded by MMCTV, Lauck Parke,

Called to Order: 7:30pm

Welcome by: Werneke

Public Comment: None

Consideration of moving Town Meeting voice vote items to Australian Ballot or delaying Town Meeting to a future date

Werneke: There is legislation which has been moved to the Governor's desk and he is expected to sign this tomorrow. But, we are going to proceed assuming that this bill is going to be signed. We do have the ability to make these decisions tonight in advance of the official signature. The way this was run last year was all voice vote items moved to Australian Ballot. If we wanted to do this again we would be required to hold an informational hear within 10 days of voting day which would be March 1. We could hold this on Monday, February 28 and that meeting can be virtual with on physical location. We could also hold a second meeting earlier

Arneson: The earlier meeting would be to present information about the budget prior to the start of early voting.

Werneke: How would early voting work?

Parent: People could request a ballot early or vote in person early at the Town Center. We want to stress having people vote early and not all show up on March 1. We have discussed having voting on March 1 at the Town Center, rather than at the school.

Werneke: We could also move the date of Town Meeting. Does anyone want to discuss that option?

Parent: I think moving the date is more confusing.

Heston moved to adopt Australian Ballot for all 2022 Town Meeting articles per S 172. Seconded by Furr. Roll call vote. Furr, Hill, Sander, Heston, Werneke in favor. Motion passed.

Arneson: Can we discuss the dates for informational hearings?

Werneke: Monday January 31 would allow us to provide information to anyone voting early. Also, Monday, February 28 as the hearing that is required per the statute.

Heston: I would recommend we don't do the first meeting on a Monday. It may be good to move it to a Tuesday.

Arneson: Tuesday, February 1 could work. We can include both dates in the warning.

Heston moved to hold an informational hearing on Tuesday, February 1 and another on Monday, February 28. Furr seconded. Roll call vote. Furr, Hill, Sander, Heston, Werneke in favor. Motion passed.

Furr: Will those dates work for MMCTV?

Erin from MMCTV: We will do our best.

Arneson: I have been coordinating with Jericho on informational hearing dates and MMCTV.

Heston: Do we have the increased capacity for Zoom?

Arneson: I will add it in for February.

Furr moved to adjourn. Heston seconded. Roll call vote. Furr, Hill, Sander, Heston, Werneke in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm