

Board of Registrars  
RECOUNT – Precinct 9 Town Meeting Member  
April 13, 2017  
Town Room, Town Hall

The meeting of the Board of Registrars was called to order at 9:36 a.m. by Temporary Registrar, Janice Ratner. Also present were Charles W. Scherpa, Temporary Registrar and Sandra J. Burgess, Town Clerk and Clerk to the Board of Registrars, and Town Counsel, L.

Town Counsel, Lauren Goldberg, reviewed procedures for candidates and their observers. None of the candidates had their own legal counsel present.

After Town Counsel reviewed the procedures and answered questions, the Runners, Total Tally Clerk, Ballot Clerks, and the Temporary Registrars were sworn in to the faithful performance of their duties.

The Ballot Transfer Box was opened and the Registrars confirmed that the seal numbers removed matched those recorded on the Election Record from the March 28, 2017 election.

The numbers on the seals removed from the Ballot Transfer Box were: 11132339 and 11132338.

Ballots were distributed among the five Tally Tables where each Ballot Clerk counted out 25 ballots. Ballot Clerks exchanged their blocks with their partner who verified the other's count.

Runners took the block of 50 ballots and put them together with a Block Envelope and a Block Tally Sheet and placed the packages on the Runner's Table, ready for recounting.

At 10:30, when all the ballots had been counted into blocks, the Runners began distributing packages to each Tally Table for recounting.

Ballot Readers were instructed to count the number of votes cast before reading out names to make sure there was no overvote for the office.

The Tally Teams read and recorded the votes cast for each candidate, write-in and blank until their block was complete.

A Runner banded the materials together and delivered them to the Total Tally Clerk.

Total Tally Clerk was advised that a completed Total Tally Sheet for a block of 50 ballots should reconcile to 400 votes; the total of votes cast for candidates, votes cast for write-ins, and blanks.

This process was continued until all the ballots had been counted.

Block 3 did not reconcile to 400 total votes. The ballots were recounted but when the Block Tally Sheet still did not reconcile to 400 total votes, the Block was split into two blocks of 25 ballots, Block 3A and Block 3B which were recounted by two different Tally Teams. The count was reconciled and added to the Total Tally sheet.

Block 6 did not reconcile to 400 total votes. The block was split into two blocks of 25 ballots, Block 6A and Block 6B and each was recounted by a different Tally Team. The count was reconciled and added to the Total Tally Sheet.

Block 10, the final block, was split into two blocks. Block 10 now had 25 ballots, and Block 11 had 48. Block 10 was given to a Tally Team for recounting.

Before counting Block 11, Town Counsel spoke with the Candidates and about an absentee ballot which had been counted on the night of the election in the Town Clerk's office. The ballot had been voted Over the Counter in the Town Clerk's office. While Town Clerk staff was marking the voting lists to indicate voters who had applied for an absentee ballots, it was discovered that this voter had received a Precinct 8 ballot in error. Town Counsel explained how the Town Clerk had counted the votes for Town Wide office on the night of the election, and how the votes for Town Meeting Member were counted as blanks.

With no objection from the candidates, the ballot was added to Block 11 and was recounted by the Tally Team as eight (8) blanks.

The Total Tally Clerk completed the Total Tally Sheet and the votes were recorded and certified by the three Registrars present.

The recount did not change the results of the election so no further action was required.

The Registrars closed the Ballot Envelopes with signed seals and the envelopes were put into the Ballot Transfer Box. The Registrars supervised the placement of seals on the Ballot Transfer Box and the Clerk to the Board of Registrars noted the seal numbers for the Record.

The numbers on the seals used to secure the Ballot Transfer box were: 0311701 and 0311702

Recount was declared closed at 1:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Burgess  
Town Clerk  
Clerk, Board of Registrars