

City of Salem, Massachusetts
Office of the City Clerk

2019 NOV 12 AM 8:03

CITY CLERK
SALEM, MASS
Ilene Simons
City Clerk



Room 1
City Hall

November 12, 2019

**CITY OF SALEM
BOARD OF REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

MEETING NOTICE/AGENDA

**"Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A ss. 18-25, and
City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033."**

TO: The Salem Board of Registrars

There will be a meeting of the Board of Registrars on Friday, November 15, 2019 at 4:00 P.M. in the City Council Chamber, 93 Washington Street, second floor, for the purpose of the following:

- Counting of overseas absentee ballots in order to finalize the election, per MGL Ch. 54 Sec. 95 (if necessary)
- Discussion of possible dates and time for the recount and procedures (if necessary)
- Discussion of possible new voting location(s) for Ward Two.
- Review and discussion of November 5, 2019 City Biennial Election.
- Set date and time for next meeting. (In order to discuss upcoming 2020 Elections, Early Voting Locations, Voting Equipment and Central Tabulation Facility and other matters as necessary.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ilene Simons".

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK
BOARD OF REGISTRARS

ATTEST:
This notice posted on "Official Bulletin Board"
City Hall, Salem, Mass. on **NOV 12 2019**
at **8:03 A** in accordance with MGL Chap. 30A,
Sections 18-25.

NOVEMBER 15, 2019

BOARD OF REGISTRARS MEETING

MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Registrars was held in the Council Chambers, 93 Washington Street on Monday, November 15, 2019 at 4:00 P.M. for the purpose of discussing the following. Notice of this meeting was posted on November 12, 2019 at 8:03 A.M. Members present were: Charles Barton, Chairman, Mr. Donald Bates, Mr. Alex Mitchell-Munevar and Ms. Ilene Simons, City Clerk. Also, in attendance were Maureen Fisher and Rochelle Sport arrived with Alex Ayube and Julio Mota with a slip time stamped 5:00 P.M. which is the deadline for both receiving overseas ballots to count and to file a recount petition. No other recounts or ballots were received.

Discussion of possible new voting location(s) for Ward Two.

Moved from St John's Parish Hall to St. Peters Hall, good location and set up is good but it's very small. With upcoming Presidential election, it will be very chaotic with the high number of voters. Ilene spoke with the Mayor as well as Director of Park, Rec and Community Services Trish O'Brien about moving W2 P1 & W2 P2 polling locations to The Community Life Center (401 Bridge St) which is in Ward 2. Both like the idea. Ilene spoke to Councillor Madore (Ward 2), her only concern was sidewalks up to the CLC for voters who walk, but other than that she is OK with it. Also, the possibility of the gym at the Carlton School. Chuck Barton-Chair, asked Ilene to do her due diligence with researching the space and reaching out to The Commonwealth Elections Division.

Review and discussion of November 5, 2019 City Biennial Election.

Ilene – Strive to keep improving i.e.: more Precinct Assistants to train as Wardens and Clerks. Translators in every ward, as well as adding greeters. Overall election went well. Ilene and Maureen (Asst City Clerk) went to Ward 2 to do the write in procedure at 7:30 PM due to write in campaign (Stacia Kraft). Stacia Kraft's campaign thanked us for a job well done. Rained on election day, which the tabulators do not like wet ballots. Had to change out two tabulator machines (Ward 4 and Ward 5) because of jams, switched over memory cards to new machine, no problems. Registrar Don Bates went to several Wards to observe, everything went smoothly. Ilene corrected a few issues from September in Ward 6 i.e.: extra parking, more signage and a greeter. Registrar Alex Mitchell-Munevar asked if there were any issues with the police stepping out of their roll? Ward 6 Precinct 1 voter showed up 7:45-7:50 p.m. to vote, voter was flagged to show ID. Voter only had a Puerto Rican ID and a Mass Health card. Neither ID showed the voters voting address in Salem. Due to time restraint, Warden and Clerk were very helpful trying to help the voter find something with his address on it. Warden then called down to City Hall for help, while Warden was on the phone, the voter turned

and left on his own. Police asked if there were any voters in the hallway, because he was going to announce the polls were closed at 8:00 PM. The police Officer announced the polls were closed and stood behind the last person inside on the 6-1 side, so no other voters could come in and vote. Registrar appreciates the correspondence with this matter. Registrar Barton questioned if ID needed to be just name and address of the voter? Ilene said yes. Do not need photo ID voter can use utility bill, prescription bottle etc.. Registrar Bates motioned to suspend the rules to allow Councillor Dominguez to speak, as he had spoken with the voter after the voter met with the City Clerk the day after the election. Registrar Mitchell-Munevar seconded the motion. Councillor Dominguez agreed with everything that Ilene said was the truth and the voter feels everything was done the proper way. Registrar Mitchell-Munevar asked Councillor Dominguez if he spoke with the voter after he (voter) met with the City Clerk? Councillor Dominguez answered yes and again stated voter was happy with the progress and understood. It was also asked to Councillor Dominguez if there is any change in getting info out to residents, and Councillor Dominguez replied that the City Clerk's Office does everything in their power to get updated information out to residents. Ilene had samples of what goes out to the voter and what they need to bring for proof of ID. In her opinion, it was timing if the voter had come earlier it could have been avoided by the voter having time to go home and get a valid form of ID.

Another issue was that absentee voters applied on October 10, 2019. Wrong Ward Ballots were mailed to them. Voter emailed the office, new (correct) ballots were mailed to voters. Received Mr.'s ballot back, but not Mrs. Registrar Bates asked if the voters were in Ward 6 and Ilene answered yes. Registrar Mitchell-Munevar asked what the voter turn out was for the city. Ilene replied 26%. She has seen it range anywhere from 13% - 40%. Robo calls were sent out in English and Spanish, as well as ads placed in the Salem News in English and Spanish. Question about bake sale in Ward 4, the City Clerk was never notified. There was one in ward 6, but the City Clerk was notified on that one.

Set date and time for next meeting.

In order to discuss upcoming 2020 Elections, Early Voting Locations, Voting Equipment and Central Tabulation Facility and other matters as necessary.

Thursday March 19, 2020 at 4:00 PM was tentatively scheduled.

The following matters cannot be taken up until 5:01 p.m.

- Counting of overseas absentee ballots in order to finalize the election, per MGL Ch. 54 Sec. 95.
- Recount Petition – Discussion of possible dates and times.

When Asst. City Clerk of Elections came up after 5:00 PM with her time stamped piece of paper the above two matters were taken up.

Counting of overseas absentee ballots in order to finalize the election, per MGL Ch. 54 Sec. 95.

The counting of overseas absentee ballots in order to finalize the election, per MGL Ch. 54 Sec. 95 was conducted. There was only one overseas ballot from Ward 5 Precinct 1 that met the criteria to be counted. This ballot was opened, read and counted for the appropriate candidates. The City Clerk added these votes to W5 P1 totals.

Recount Petition – Discussion of possible dates and times

The recount petition submitted by candidate Jerry L. Ryan was then taken up. A motion was made to schedule the recount for, Monday, November, 25, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. The motion was approved. Ilene Simons also informed the Board that she reached out to Lauren Goldberg, Attorney from KP Law to represent the board. They were all in favor.

Motion to adjourn by Registrar Bates, seconded by Registrar Mitchell-Munevar. Meeting adjourned at 5:28 P.M.

ATTEST:

ILENE SIMONS
CITY CLERK
BOARD OF REGISTRARS

Ilene Simons

From: Ilene Simons <isimons@comcast.net>
Sent: Saturday, December 14, 2019 6:37 AM
To: Ilene Simons
Subject: Fwd: minutes mtg. of board of registrar, November 15, 2019.doc

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Donald Bates <don@dbatescpa.com>
Date: December 14, 2019 at 2:11:14 AM EST
To: "Isimons@salem.com" <isimons@salem.com>, "Ilene Simons (isimons@comcast.net)" <isimons@comcast.net>
Subject: FW: minutes mtg. of board of registrar, November 15, 2019.doc

Hi Ilene,

Just a few changes: I visited several wards but not all as stated in the minutes – please correct. The time of the Ward 6 voter arrival is 8:45 to 8:50 PM in the minutes should probably be 7:45 to 7:50 PM. The word voter has a typo of Voater in the minutes. Any questions, please contact me. Thanks
Don

From: Donald Bates [<mailto:dbates@Salem.com>]
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 4:55 PM
To: Donald Bates
Subject: FW: minutes mtg. of board of registrar, November 15, 2019.doc
Importance: High

From: Ilene Simons
Sent: Thursday, December 12, 2019 4:55:12 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
To: Chuck Barton; Donald Bates; Alexander Ayube
Subject: FW: minutes mtg. of board of registrar, November 15, 2019.doc

Please review and let me know if any changes need to be made. These minutes are being requested by candidate Megan Riccardi.

Either way if you have changes or not can you let me know by Monday, December 16th.

ty

Ilene Simons
City Clerk
Justice of the Peace