

2018 0813 Election Procedures Modernization Workgroup Meeting Minutes DRAFT

Attendees: Charlie Challstrom, Joe Clark, Georgette Cole, Nick Suzich.

We reviewed the current material in the Town Charter and Ordinances pertaining to Town Elections and the work of the Board of Elections Supervisors.

Two major goals are to come into compliance with new State requirements regarding no-excuse absentee ballots and to specify how the Town would deal with a tie vote.

Multiple topics were covered. Action items are:

Charlie will draft new Charter and Ordinance language needed to modernize the Absentee Balloting sections. Also to combine and modernize Emergency Balloting with Aged and Infirm Balloting. He will prepare draft language to address the announcement of results. He will prepare Ordinance language to provide for a special election within 90 days (or less) in case of a tie vote.

Joe will draft an Operations Manual covering the standard operating procedures of the Board and code of conduct. We discussed the distinction between using the Board versus “Tellers” (Roberts Rules of Order) at a Town Election to count votes. Joe will include this.

Georgette will draft new Charter language related to the description of the Board, the procedure for handling the list of qualified voters, the appointment of election clerks, and the procedure used for nominations.

Nick will research the procedures used by the County and by other municipalities for handling Absentee Ballots (distribution and submission) and compile what could work for Washington Grove.

Our next meeting will be Monday, August 27 at 7:30pm.

Submitted by Georgette Cole