

September 26, 2013

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS – Regular Meeting

Mr. Fatica, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Board of Elections at 4:40 p.m. in the Erie County Council Caucus Room, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Smith, Clerk of Elections, called the roll:

Members Present:     Mr. Fatica, Chairman  
                              Mr. Giles  
                              Mr. Cleaver  
                              Mr. DiMattio  
                              Dr. Foust  
                              Mrs. Loll

Members Absent:     Mr. Leone

Also Present:         Douglas R. Smith, Clerk of Elections

Minutes

Mr. Giles moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting held on September 12, 2013. This was seconded by Dr. Foust and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Report by Mr. Smith:

Mr. Smith reported that there has been a lot of great training going on in the last few months. Kim DeLand, the new supervisor of elections, and Jim Serpak, the new warehouse manager, both went to Omaha and had a week long software and hardware training session with ES&S. They also had a visit from the regional ES&S who spent the day going over the operation with them. Mr. Smith felt it was a valuable investment in on-going positive performance. The polling sites are in good shape. There are two changes on the agenda today.

New Business:

Mr. Giles made a motion to accept the possible motion to change the polling place for Erie 6-9 from Roosevelt Junior High School, 2300 Cranberry Street, to Irving School, 2310 Plum Street, as well as Summit 2 from Summit Senior Center, 1450 Townhall Road, to Summit Municipal Building, 1230 Townhall Road West. Dr. Foust seconded the motion and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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There was discussion regarding the ballot and Mr. Smith noted that the only unusual thing on the ballot was the term limit questions. Mr. Smith also commented that the state is changing their voter registration system and are upgrading it. He stated there will be visits to every county by people from the State making sure the new system is in total operation. Mr. Fatica asked if there would be signs at the polling places asking for ID and Mr. Smith stated that the latest ruling from the Court notes that if a voter is new to the district, they would be asked for ID as has been done previously, but a voter will be asked for ID even if they are not. If the voter chooses not to show ID, they will still be able to vote on the machine and there will be no process for provisional balloting, which is what happened at the last election. There will be no consequences for not showing ID. Mr. Smith also clarified that the poll workers are not permitted to discuss what the future of voter ID might be.

Mr. Cleaver asked about the extra space on the last page of the ballot and the text for the term limits is somewhat difficult to read, could it be moved to enlarge the text. Mr. Smith stated he would inquire.

Dr. Foust moved to approve the 2013 General Municipal Election Ballot and it was seconded by Mr. Giles. This carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary

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