

**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

Northampton Board of Registrars

Meeting Minutes

On-line Zoom Teleconference Meeting

Meeting Date: 03/18/2021

Meeting Time: 5:00 pm

Pursuant to Governor Baker's Emergency Order Modifying the State's Open Meeting Law issued March 12, 2020, this meeting was held using remote participation.

1. *Announcement that meeting is held via Zoom & audio and video recorded--Clerk Powers announced that the meeting was being held by remote participation and that the event was being video recorded. Present at the meeting was Registrar Tarantino, Registrar Kay and Clerk Powers. Registrar Polachek was absent.*
2. *Public Comment- None*
3. *Discussion about problems with printing of 2021 Annual Street Listing – The annual street listing that was mailed by the vendor on March 8, 2021 had several printing issues resulting in confusion over voter status and concerns about the voter database. The problems noted were as follows:*
 - *The asterisk was missing from the first column which denoted a registered voter.*
 - *Many contained wrong ward/precinct information and incorrect residential street or street designations.*
 - *Some resident names were missing the middle initial.*

A review of the voter information that was sent to the printer confirmed that the data from the Voter Registration Information System was correct and valid and the problem was as a result of a vendor printing error. The registrars discussed possible solutions to address the problem, including community outreach via press release, re-sending the street list in its entirety or re-sending Annual Street lists to only those with known problems. The office clerks are verifying information as the lists are received, and fielding questions about the information contained in VRIS.

Clerk Powers noted that this is the first time that this vendor has been used for Northampton Street Lists, but not the first time that there has been a problem with the mailing when using street list extracts from VRIS. She noted that the vendor is open to corrective action as needed, including re-printing of the Street Listing.

4. *Adjourn: At 5:30 pm Registrar Kay moved to adjourn the meeting; Registrar Tarantino seconded the motion. The motion was unanimous.*

*Prepared by P. Powers / contact
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