



STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #: 20-71
COUNCIL MTG OF: July 21, 2020
FROM: Dave Caron, Town Administrator
OFFERED BY: Administration
PREPARED BY: Administration
SUBJECT: Polling Location

INTRODUCTION

The Committee on Elections is requesting the designation of Calvary Bible as the polling location for the September primary and Pinkerton Academy as the polling location for the November general.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

The Council is encouraged to accept this recommendation and to adopt Resolution #2020-033.

BACKGROUND

Derry has used a number of different polling locations throughout the Town. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and its potential impact on the number of available poll workers, the Committee on Elections (Councilors Morgan, Wetherbee and Bourdon; Clerk Healey, Moderator Gifford and the Supervisors of Checklist) recommend that the Town Council designate one polling location for each election and aggressively market the availability of absentee ballots. The Committee recommends Calvary Bible Church as the polling location for the September primary and Pinkerton Academy as the polling location for the November General election.

DISCUSSION

The Town Council is required by Town Charter and NH RSA to establish the polling locations used for elections. Under Section 2.5(b) of the Town Charter the Council "shall establish polling places and balloting hours" and under NH RSA 658:9 I "The selectmen of each town and ward shall provide for a suitable place in which to hold state elections and shall see that the same is warmed, lighted, and furnished with proper supplies and conveniences". The Town Clerk's office has reached out to Calvary Bible Church and have been informed that we would be welcome back to use their facilities for the September election. Further, Pinkerton Academy has confirmed the availability of the Fieldhouse for the November election.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be no additional fiscal impact with the designation of these locations.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL

Please see Resolution #2020-033



RESOLUTION Number 2020-033

To Approve Polling Locations for the September 2020 Primary and
November 2020 General Elections

WHEREAS, State Statutes designate the responsibility to provide polling locations to the Town Council; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the community that ease of access and safety are paramount to encourage voter participation; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 Pandemic will require a consolidation of election workers and resources; and

WHEREAS, encouraging the use of absentee ballots will also assist with the orderly voting process

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED IN COUNCIL that the Town Council hereby designates Calvary Bible School as the Town's Polling Location for the September Primary Election and Pinkerton Academy as the Town's Polling Location for the November General Election.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage.

Adopted: July 21, 2020

Attest:

x _____

Charles Foote, Council Chair

Date: _____

x _____

Daniel Healey, Town Clerk

Date: _____