

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE, GRAFTON, VERMONT
Received for record Sept 17 2024
at 8 o'clock 00 minutes A. M.
and recorded in Book Misc Page _____
Attest Kim Record
Town Clerk

Vermont Secretary of State
Policy and Procedure - Elections

Prohibition of Firearms or Deadly Weapons in Polling Places (S.209)

I. Purpose

Vermont Act S.209 prohibits the possession of a firearm or a dangerous or deadly weapon at a polling place, or on the walks leading to a building in which a polling place is located, on an election day. Possession is also prohibited in the town clerk's office during any period when a board of civil authority has voted to permit early voting. This policy memorandum aims to clarify the Secretary of State's official interpretation of the "period of time" when a town clerk's office is considered a "polling place."

II. Policy

Town clerk's offices are considered official polling places under S.209 starting 45 days before statewide elections, 20 days before local elections, or when the town clerk begins accepting or distributing ballots to eligible voters, whichever comes first. This designation as a polling place ends at the close of business on the day immediately before the election.

Note* If a town clerk's office serves as the official polling place on the day of an election, the prohibition on firearms and deadly weapons extends through election day until the polls close.

III. Applicability

This policy applies to all Vermont town clerk's offices and all elections.

IV. Effect

This policy is effective immediately.

10. Committee Reports:

Personnel Committee: Cathy Siano-Goodwin said they would be working on revising the Personnel Policy.

Wastewater Committee: Joe Pollio began the conversation by saying the wastewater system is dead. Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) took back the nearly \$4 million and presented an amendment to the grant for \$200,000. Pollio also said that Tighe & Bond presented a draft 90% report and are expected to host a public meeting. Pollio said he, Cathy Siano-Goodwin, Morgan Wilbur, and Suzanne Welch met with Tighe & Bond and Emily Hackett from VT DEC to discuss how the \$200,000 can be used. After some discussion, Pollio said the committee felt they should prioritize updating the Septic Pumping Ordinance. David Hall asked, out of curiosity, why the money was taken away. Siano-Goodwin said that the State said the Town did not meet some deadlines, which is false. Wendy Martin asked if the committee had been disbanded. Pollio said yes; the committee had been disbanded and the Selectboard would assume the role of communicating with Tighe & Bond and the Hackett. Pollio mentioned new technology that can go into these septic systems to determine the condition of them. Anna Keegan if we've asked any company who can perform those inspections. Wilbur said that any project that the committee would like to use the money on needs to get approved by VT DEC first. Wilbur also said that Suzanne Welch had submitted a letter to the Selectboard and Planning Commission, which she will have available for the public to read as well as attach it to the minutes (see pages 5-7).

It was moved by Anna Keegan, seconded by Cathy Siano-Goodwin, to authorize Morgan Wilbur to be the authorized signer for the amendment to grant #06140-2023-ARPA-VWWW-01. Motion passed unanimously.

July 2023 Flood Update: Morgan Wilbur said she created a spreadsheet to track money that had been spent and money that had been reimbursed. As of September 12th, the Town had spent a total of \$837,461.51 for contractors and highway crew work. The only projects that have not been paid for yet are the Bell Road culvert, the Eastman Road retaining wall and administrative work. FEMA had already reimbursed the Town for the Bell Road culvert though, because it was a bid project. Therefore, the Town has received \$579,145.62; which includes \$162,511.78 that has not yet been spent for the Bell Road culvert. Wilbur said she has a follow-up meeting with FEMA the following week.

11. Walker Bridge Bond Documents: Morgan Wilbur stated that the Resolution Certificate is resolving that the project is necessary, there are not sufficient funds to pay for the project and that the question of borrowing funds should be put to the voters. The resolution also adopts the warning and the ballot to be used at the special meeting. Morgan read the article within the warning.

It was moved by Cathy Siano-Goodwin, seconded by Anna Keegan, to adopt the Resolution Certificate for the reconstruction of bridge #B20 on Route 121 East. Motion passed unanimously.

12. Adopt Prohibition of Firearms or Deadly Weapons in Polling Places: It was moved by Anna Keegan, seconded by John Gregory, to adopt the Prohibition of Firearms or Deadly Weapons in Polling Places (S.209) policy. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Engineering Services RFP for Fire Escape Project: Morgan Wilbur said she prepared the draft request for proposals for engineering services for the fire escape on the Town Hall. She thought that some of the \$30,000 from the Budget Adjustment Act money could be used for engineering services. She also said there was a State of Vermont Historic Preservation Grant application available but due by October 7th. She planned to apply for this grant to help with the construction costs.