

OFFICE OF THE SELECT BOARD

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Select Board Members

FROM: Marie A. Krepelka, Board Administrator

DATE: June 15, 2020

RE: Authorization of New Voting Equipment

It is required by the State that the Select Board take a vote to authorize the use of new voting equipment and to discontinue the use of the current voting equipment.

“In order to use the new equipment (and discontinue using your existing system), the Board of Selectmen or City Council must take a vote as required by General Laws Chapter 54, Section 34 (attached). Please be aware that this vote is NOT the same as an appropriation to buy or lease the equipment. The vote must specifically state to start using the exact equipment and to discontinue the old equipment (including hand counting). Accordingly, it is not sufficient to simply have an appropriation vote or to just sign a contract. There has to be a specific vote TO USE THE EQUIPMENT and thereafter notice of the vote must be sent to the Secretary of State’s Office.

Also, there are specific deadlines by which a vote must be taken. The vote must be taken at a meeting held at least 120 days before a state or presidential primary or state election and at least 60 days before a municipal preliminary or election. Additionally, notice must be sent to the Secretary of State’s Office within 5 days of the vote.”

Provided is accurate text for the vote and signatures to send to LHS and the Elections Division.