

MINUTES OF THE SHARON VT BOARD OF CIVIL AUTHORITY

OCTOBER 26, 2021

Members Present: JP: Mary Ayer

Selectboard: Joseph Ronan, Mary Gavin, Kevin Gish

Town Clerk: Catherine Sartor

State Representative: Timothy Briglin

Catherine Sartor called the meeting to order at 6:20PM. This meeting began late due to technical difficulties getting connected via Zoom.

Mary Gavin nominated by Kevin Gish as BCA Chair, Joseph Ronan seconded, vote was unanimous. Mary Gavin voted as BCA Chair.

The board discussed the tentative map proposed by the Legislative Apportionment Board. The proposal would split the current four-town/two representative districts into two single-representative districts consisting of two towns. Sharon would remain intact as a town, while Norwich would split into a larger and smaller portion.

Mary Gavin asked Representative Briglin why this new map might be the way to go.

Representative Briglin explained the challenges for legislature, and this is an attempt to take larger districts and cut them in two. Having fewer representatives in a smaller district, would pull the representatives closer to town residents. There are areas where this is geographically challenging.

Representative Briglin felt that the current map is manageable due to the four-town proximity (Sharon, Norwich, Strafford, and Thetford). He also stated that having our current district split up, we would lose a Representative in the house.

The BCA agreed to have a second meeting with the four current towns in our district (Sharon, Norwich, Strafford, and Thetford) to discuss thoughts and feedback.

There was consensus to maintain all towns in the same district, however this was not unanimous.

A further meeting was planned for November 10th at 6PM for the Sharon BCA, after the November 8th, 4 town discussions between Sharon, Norwich, Strafford, and Thetford.

This meeting ended at 6:55PM

Respectfully submitted, Catherine Sartor, Board of Civil Authority Clerk/Town Clerk