



Village of Wellsville

Office of the Clerk

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711(TDD)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The Village Board of Trustees would like to update the community regarding the proposition scheduled for vote on November 6th and invite anyone with questions to attend the regularly scheduled board meetings prior to the vote on October 22nd and November 5th. The meetings begin at 7 pm in the Trustee's Room located on the second floor of the Municipal Building. An informational summary will also be available at the general election. The reason we have taken steps to assign election oversight to the County Board of Elections, coinciding with their November general elections, was to economically address a few challenges we do not anticipate changing.

First, New York State has moved toward newer voting methods that utilize voter verified paper records and better integrate persons with special needs. The County Board of Elections is compliant with these goals (which are cost prohibitive for the Village) so it makes sense to empower them to conduct our elections. In addition, election preparation by the Village Clerk's Office is quite time-consuming and finding the required election inspectors of each party is increasingly difficult. Making arrangements to use the lever-style voting machines is not guaranteed and the alternative manual paper balloting method potentially less accurate. And trustee terms that begin in December, instead of early April, allow more time for board training and budget planning prior to the required public budget hearing deadline of April 20th.

If voters do not allow us to change the date of Village elections to coincide with the County's election schedule in November, additional costs would be introduced to the process requiring re-evaluation. The Village Board is allowed to take back election oversight at any time. We believe a November vote will be more convenient for Village residents and should increase voter turn-out each election. Per New York State Law, Trustee terms will be extended from April to December until all seats are on the new November election rotation.

Respectfully,

Mayor Judith E. Lynch
Deputy Mayor Dawn Ketchner
Trustee "Jamie" Herman
Trustee Tom Hayden
Trustee "Pete" Cook