

**CANVASSING BOARD
CITY OF RAMSEY
ANOKA COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

The Ramsey City Council conducted a Canvassing Board meeting on Friday, August 16, 2024, at the Ramsey Municipal Center, 7550 Sunwood Drive NW, Ramsey, Minnesota.

Members Present: Mayor Mark Kuzma
Councilmember Chelsee Howell (attended remotely)
Councilmember Debra Musgrove
Councilmember Michael Olson
Councilmember Dan Specht
Councilmember Matt Woestehoff

Members Absent: Councilmember Chris Riley

Also Present: City Administrator Brian Hagen
City Clerk Katie Schmidt

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kuzma called the Canvassing Board meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

COMMISSIONER BUSINESS

Declare the Results of the August 13, 2024 Primary Election

City Clerk Schmidt reviewed the staff report and provided a summary of the Primary Election and its results.

Councilmember Musgrove asked if the process changed regarding new laws that passed involving voter ID or if any updated training was provided from the County or State.

City Clerk Schmidt responded that the process did not change on the front end. The City did not receive any updated training or processes on how to handle registering new voters from the State or the County.

Councilmember Musgrove commented that she did not feel that the State provided enough guidance to the Counties or cities in regards to the law changes.

Councilmember Olson asked about the overvotes and undervotes and what those mean.

City Clerk Schmidt explained how that occurs.

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Specht, to accept and declare the results of the August 13, 2024 Primary Election.

Further discussion:

Councilmember Howell concurred with Councilmember Musgrove that the city should receive guidance from the State.

Councilmember Musgrove thanked staff for providing additional details as well as the results tapes.

Councilmember Olson said he understands the process but feels like going through the motions as council is verifying something that they aren't laying eyes on.

Councilmember Howell asked if there is a bigger time frame to complete the canvassing after the General Election.

City Clerk Schmidt said the time frame to canvass the Primary is within 3 days of the election, the time frame to complete the canvass for the General is up to 10 days after the election.

Councilmember Specht asked what happens if Council doesn't approve the results.

City Administrator Hagen replied that our staff is given a set of rules and procedures to follow to run elections, and can only work with the information we are provided by the voter. Councilmembers are welcome to come to view the equipment testing and to view the closing of the polls, but at the end of the day, there are a lot of rules that election judges and staff have to follow.

Councilmember Woestehoff asked if all the rules and regulations were followed for this election.

City Clerk Schmidt replied yes.

Councilmember Howell commented that the issues some Councilmembers have is largely with the State and if staff can get more information and guidance prior to the November election that would be helpful.

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Olson	aye
Councilmember Woestehoff	aye
Councilmember Specht	aye
Councilmember Musgrove	aye
Councilmember Howell	aye
Mayor Kuzma	aye

Motion carried.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF INPUT

Councilmember Musgrove asked if we can plan the date of the November canvass to have more time.

City Clerk Schmidt said the latest date to hold the canvassing meeting is November 15.

Councilmember Musgrove stated November 14 could possibly work; the only other evening meeting is the Park and Recreation Commission. She asked if we could add it to our legislative agenda to have more than 3 days to canvass a primary.

City Administrator replied that we could ask the County.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Councilmember Woestehoff, seconded by Councilmember Musgrove, to adjourn the meeting.

A roll call vote was performed:

Councilmember Olson	aye
Councilmember Woestehoff	aye
Councilmember Specht	aye
Councilmember Musgrove	aye
Councilmember Howell	aye
Mayor Kuzma	aye

Motion carried.

The regular meeting of the Canvassing Board was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brian Hagen
City Administrator

ATTEST:

Katie M. Schmidt
City Clerk

Drafted by Katie Schmidt