

Town of Pawlet – Town Meeting, March 2, 2021 – Health and Safety Protocol for Voting

As we look toward Town Meeting Election Day, March 2, 2021, we would like to give you information on what to expect with the recommended protocol put into place due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We are committed to running a safe and healthy election!

- Voting on election day will occur:
 - Outside in vehicles
 - Outside on the porch (with limited #'s)
- After filling out ballots outside, voters will be permitted, in limited numbers, to enter the building to deposit ballots into the Tabulator OR voters may choose to deposit ballots into a locked ballot box for processing by two election officials during the day
- Masks are required at the polling place
 - If you do not or cannot wear a facial covering, you will be directed to a designated area and a ballot will be brought to you
 - A poll worker will explain the process, including putting the ballot in the certificate envelope that you must sign
- Hand sanitizing prior to and after voting will be mandatory
- There are three (3) ballots to be voted on; one is two-sided
- Early and Absentee Voting is, as it always has been, an option BY REQUEST
- Come to the polls educated and prepared as there will be no discussions and no lingering
- As per protocol, election/poll workers will be equipped with Personal Protection Equipment
- We are still operating “by appointment only” so please call ahead if you plan to come to the office prior to 3/2
- For the health and safety of community members and election workers, DO NOT go to a polling place if:
 - You feel sick or have a fever,
 - Have tested positive for COVID-19
 - Are in quarantine
 - Have recently had close contact with a person(s) known to have COVID-19
- While at the polling place you will practice the recommended 6’ social distancing

- You may go to <http://mvp.sec.state.vt.us> to set up a My Voter Page for yourself where you can check on the status of your early voted ballot. Or you can call the Town Clerks Office during regular operating hours.
- You may deposit your ballots which are sealed in the certificate envelope into the secure drop box on the porch. We empty it out several times throughout the work day. Post marks do not count in an election (ie. a post mark of 3/2 received on 3/3 will not allow the ballot to be counted). We MUST have all voted ballots by the close of polls on Election Day! You may hand your ballot to an election official during regular office hours up to and including Election Day.
- For your safety:
 - Voting areas will be sanitized after each voter
 - Voters are encouraged to come with their own black or blue pen to cast votes, otherwise;
 - Voters will be provided with a small pencil that can be kept or discarded after voting
- Be prepared before coming to the polls. If you received ballots in the mail but have not voted them, bring them with you to expedite the process. Review the ballots ahead of time to speed the process and limit your exposure to others.
- For this election, ballots were sent “by request”
- If you do not bring your issued ballot with you, you will need to complete and sign an Affidavit of No Ballot Cast before you can be issued a 2nd ballot
- We ask for your patience as we all work towards a safe, respectful, kind, and healthy election. Thank you!

These protocols are subject to change prior to voting day!