



BETH DELBUONO
MAYOR

TOWN OF NEWINGTON

200 GARFIELD STREET
NEWINGTON, CONNECTICUT 06111

OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

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Public Hearing

March 7, 2022

This meeting will be presented as a Zoom Webinar/Hybrid Meeting

To provide an opportunity for interested individuals to express their views regarding the proposed amendment to Chapter 121, Voting Districts.

Mayor DelBuono called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m.

Presentation by Registrar's of Voters, Theresa Avey and Marie Fox. All four members of the registrar's office came up with this proposal, we are a team and felt this is what was best for the town.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION regarding the proposed amendment to Chapter 121, Voting Districts. (VIA TELEPHONE: 860-665-8736) (3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT PER SPEAKER)

- Neil J. Ryan, 237 Brockett Street, thanked the town council and registrar of voters for proposing 7 districts with 7 voting locations. Waste of time, power and manpower. Where is District 8 being moved to? During presentation Terry mentioned stand-alone referendum proposal; is that being considered tonight as well? Think that is a terrible idea. What is the status of that?
- Rose Lyons, 46 Elton Drive, just want clarification. Don't understand stand-alone referendum, understand power is by state statute. Do you need town council approval for that or can they do it on their own?
- Sue Mazzocoli, 149 Harris Drive stated she is watching on her i-pad and TV, Channel 16. Don't see any of you although you are there at council chambers. Would like to be there in person; convenient at home. Very happy with choices; unhappy not part of 27th district any longer.
- Representative Gary Turco, 98 Williamstown Court. Thanked the registrars of voters for their hard work and revising the proposal many, many times. Really appreciate you listening to all the concerns of the public. Wish we didn't have to switch districts; parking situation issue. Thank you for your efforts; contentious at times; sometimes that needs to be done. This is why our country is so great; we worked things out in a democratic process. Willing to help with education process regarding polling places, districts.
- Mayor DelBuono stated she will address the stand-alone referendum questions. Council sets referendum and date; the Registrar of Voters set referendum polling location by statute. This was sparked the state reapportionment.
- Ms. Fox stated that District 8 will be voting in District 5 now.
- Mayor DelBuono stated that they will be voting at Paterson now with the change.

- Ellen Schiller, 84 Settlers Knoll wants to voice my opinion. Feel town should keep as many districts as possible, especially with new apartments and housing. Your responsibility to provide voting. Voting districts should be in place for every election, town, primary and referendum to avoid any confusion. Remember you are elected to your positions. Citizens have long memories and will remember this.

Mayor DelBuono adjourned the public hearing at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Gibbon
Council Clerk

**Pursuant to §805 of the Town of Newington Charter*