

TOWN CLERK

2012 was an extremely busy year in the clerk's office. The town held five elections and two town meetings. The November special town meeting was postponed by Hurricane Sandy, one of the largest hurricanes to hit the Northeast in many years.

Stow is now divided into two precincts with both precincts voting in one polling location. Basically, the south side of town is in Precinct 1 and the north side of town is in Precinct 2. *See the precinct map at the end of the report.* The total town population number from the 2010 Federal Census determines the number of precincts.

We also changed polling locations this year. Stow's elections have been held at Hale School since 2007, when the school administrators asked us to move out of Center School, due to a conflict with a Special State Primary and the first day of school. We returned to the newly renovated and expanded Center School in November for the State Election and Special Town Election. It was an incredible experience running two elections simultaneously, in a new facility with two precincts, and a large turnout for the highly contested Senate and Presidential races. More than 900 absentee ballot requests were received between the two elections. This is the most we have ever processed.

In addition to elections with voter registrations, nomination papers, petitions and campaign finance reporting, the town clerk's office is responsible for dog licensing, maintaining vital records (birth, marriage, death), business certificates, raffle permits, administering the oath of office to all elected and appointed officials, filings for the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals, fuel storage tank registrations, annual town census, collection of fines (parking, dog, and marijuana violations), preservation of permanent records, town meeting setup, scheduling the use of the town common sign and town hall.

Other responsibilities include implementing the Open Meeting Law and the Ethics Law requirements that went into effect two years ago. Every municipal employee and official must receive a summary of the Ethics Law annually and provide the clerk with documentation that he/she has received the summary. Every other year municipal employees and officials must take an online educational training and provide a certificate of completion to the town clerk. All of this paper work is retained for a minimum of six years.

We do all of this with minimal staffing. The town clerk is the only full-time staff person. The assistant town clerk, Kay Desmond, and office assistant, Debbie Seith, work for a combined total of less than 25 hours per week. I am greatly indebted to these two dedicated women.

Volunteers are also an integral part of the office. Bill Byron and Ellie Beaudette assisted with the tedious task of opening all the census envelopes and sorting the forms by street number again this year. Other office volunteers include Donna Bonczek, Georgie Smith, Barbara Jerome, Dot Spaulding and Carol Clayton. Several other volunteers helped prepare for the election the weekend prior. On Election night more volunteers assisted with putting all the equipment away. I could not have made it through this year without all of you. THANK YOU all so very much!!!!

2012 VITAL RECORDS

| | |
|-----------|----|
| BIRTHS | 51 |
| MARRIAGES | 9 |
| DEATHS | 27 |

**Individual vital record listings are omitted as a security precaution to deter identity theft.*

TOWN CLERK 2012 FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS

| FEES COLLECTED | |
|--|-----------|
| Vital record copies, bylaws, maps, etc | 2,330.65 |
| Fines, bylaw violations, late fees | 2,945.00 |
| Business Certificate filings | 615.00 |
| Fuel storage tank registrations | 0 |
| Raffle permit | 10.00 |
| Dog Licenses | 10,433.00 |
| Kennel Licenses | 810.00 |
| TOTAL FEES COLLECTED | 17,143.65 |

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY MARCH 6, 2012

Pursuant to the Board of Selectmen's warrant of January 24, 2012, the Presidential Primary was held in Hale Middle School Gymnasium and was called to order at 7 a.m.

After examining the ballot box in precinct 1 and 2, and finding both empty and in good order, the counter was set to zero. The ballot boxes were locked and the keys delivered to the Warden who declared the polls open.

During polling hours, a total of fifty-one absentee ballots were opened, recorded and cast into the ballot box (twelve Democratic, thirty-nine Republican). There were ten spoiled ballots. There were no provisional ballots.

The polls were declared closed at 8 p.m. Total votes cast: 906 Turnout = 19%

Total Registered Voters = 4762

Democrat = 1119 Republican = 719 Green Rainbow = 4
 Libertarian = 15 Unenrolled = 2905

| Primary Total | Precinct 1 | Precinct 2 | Total Ballots Cast |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|--------------------|
| Democrat | 95 | 117 | 212 |
| Republican | 379 | 312 | 691 |
| Green-Rainbow | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Total Ballots Cast | 475 | 432 | 906 |

| Democrat Race/Candidates | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Total |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| Presidential Preference | | | |
| Barack Obama | 90 | 108 | 198 |
| No Preference | 3 | 8 | 11 |
| Blanks | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Scatterings | 1 | 1 | 2 |

| Democrat Race/candidates | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Total |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| State Committee Man | | | |
| James McGowan | 81 | 96 | 177 |
| Blanks | 14 | 21 | 35 |
| Scatterings | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| State Committee Woman | | | |
| Kate Donaghue | 78 | 98 | 173 |
| Faye L. Morrison | 8 | 10 | 18 |
| Blanks | 9 | 12 | 21 |
| Scatterings | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Democratic Town Committee | | | |
| Stephen M. Dungan | 77 | 90 | 167 |
| Pamela J. Weathers | 75 | 90 | 165 |
| Susan Vick | 67 | 84 | 151 |
| Daisy Dearborn | 74 | 94 | 168 |
| Gregory D. Jones | 75 | 85 | 160 |
| James P. Cohen | 71 | 79 | 150 |
| Mary R. LaPalme | 70 | 80 | 150 |
| Allan R. Fierce | 76 | 90 | 166 |
| Shirley A. Burchfield | 69 | 80 | 149 |
| Patricia A. Walrath | 83 | 102 | 185 |
| John F. Zettler | 70 | 79 | 149 |
| Kate Hogan | 81 | 108 | 189 |
| Robert J. Cohen | 74 | 81 | 155 |
| Weston A. Fisher | 70 | 81 | 151 |
| Leonard H. Golder | 74 | 84 | 158 |
| Sharon Lee Brownfield | 72 | 81 | 153 |
| Blanks* | 2144 | 2707 | 4851 |
| Scatterings | 3 | 0 | 3 |
| Total | 3325 | 4095 | 7420* |

*There were 35 openings for town committee on each ballot.
35 openings x 212 ballots = 7,420

| Republican Race/Candidates | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Presidential Preference | | | |
| Ron Paul | 38 | 25 | 63 |
| Mitt Romney | 279 | 225 | 504 |
| Rick Perry | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rick Santorum | 38 | 41 | 79 |
| Jon Huntsman | 4 | 5 | 9 |
| Michele Bachmann | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Newt Gingrich | 15 | 14 | 29 |
| No Preference | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| Blank & scatterings | 1 | 1 | 2 |

| Republican Race/Candidates | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| State Committee Man | | | |
| Brian P. Burke | 300 | 219 | 519 |
| Michael "Iron Mike" Farquhar | 36 | 42 | 78 |
| Paul R. Ferro | 10 | 8 | 18 |
| Blanks | 33 | 42 | 75 |
| Scatterings | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| State Committee Woman | | | |
| Jeanne Kangas | 271 | 212 | 483 |
| Blanks | 106 | 98 | 204 |
| Scatterings | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| Republican Town Committee | | | |
| Brian P. Burke | 266 | 197 | 463 |
| John R. Mileski | 207 | 175 | 382 |
| Shannon M. Sarno | 209 | 153 | 362 |
| Walter Robert Dilling Jr. | 197 | 146 | 343 |
| Laura C. Folsom | 233 | 161 | 394 |
| Brian R. Folsom | 213 | 155 | 368 |
| Stephen P. Pottle | 210 | 153 | 363 |
| Richard A. Konash | 209 | 149 | 358 |
| Theresa Ann O'Riorden | 217 | 152 | 369 |
| Dean J. Cavaretta | 205 | 159 | 364 |
| Edward C. Grund | 198 | 149 | 347 |
| Edward R. Perry Jr. | 230 | 165 | 395 |
| Maria B. delRosario | 211 | 149 | 360 |
| Andrew S. Martin | 247 | 162 | 409 |
| Kristine M. Martin | 241 | 158 | 399 |
| Blanks | 8065 | 6974 | 15039 |
| Write-in: Michael Mattia | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Scatterings | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| Total Votes Cast | 11370 | 9360 | 20730* |

*There were 30 openings for town committee on each ballot.
30 openings x 691 ballots = 20,730

| Green-Rainbow Races/Candidates | Prec. 1 | Prec. 2 | Totals |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Presidential Preference | | | |
| Kent Mesplay | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Jill Stein | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Harley Mikkelson | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| No Preference | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Blanks | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | | | |
| State Committee Man | | | |
| Blanks | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | |
| State Committee Woman | | | |
| Blanks | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | | |
| Town Committee | | | |
| Blanks | 10 | 20 | 30 |

ELECTION WORKERS

Warden

Philip T. Detsch

Deputy Warden

Edward R. Perry, Jr.

Clerk

Pamela G. Gjestebly

Ballot Box

Mary Cutler

Robert Cutler

Checkers & Ballot Counters

Josephine Crowell

Alice Cushing

Ann Deluty

Lisa Lavina

Joanne C. Newman

Kathleen O'Brien

Kate Ogle

Susan Pauley

Laura Reiner

Betty Sauta

Tammy Van Buren

Barbara Wolfenden

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

MAY 7, 2012

Pursuant to the Selectmen's warrant of April 20, 2012, posted by the Constable on April 26, 2012, the annual town meeting was opened at 7:06 p.m. in Hugh Mill Auditorium a Hale School by Moderator David Walrath.

The meeting rose for the *Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag* led by Mr. Walrath. Town officials were introduced: Selectmen, Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Town Counsel, Town Administrator, Selectmen's and Administrative Assistant, Finance Committee, Capital Planning Committee and others. Several non-voters who may be heard were approved. Deputy Gary Horowitz and Assistant Moderator Elizabeth Painter were unanimously approved.