

REPORT OF THE TOWN CLERK

The office of the Town Clerk serves as the repository of vital records for the town; conducts all activities related to census, elections and voter registration; issues a variety of licenses and permits; and serves as the office of record for a variety of public filings. A staff of three assists the Clerk in carrying out the various functions of the office.

Census and Elections

The Town Clerk's Office conducted 4 elections in FY 2009: September 16, 2008 State Primary, November 4, 2008 Presidential Election, December 9, 2008, Special Debt Exclusion Election (WHS project), and March 3, 2009 Annual Town Election. The State Primary had few contested offices for this district and the participation rate was 22%. The Presidential Election of November was of substantial national interest and the participation rate in Wellesley reflected the national trend with 88% participation, including a substantial number of absentee and overseas specially qualified voters. In December, the special election to exclude the debt service for a new Wellesley High School drew 48% of the electorate. The March 2009 election produced a participation rate of 11% due to few contested offices and minimal campaigns by candidates.

The administration of elections requires the assistance of over 70 poll workers and the cooperation of the Department of Public Works, the Wellesley Public Schools, the Police Department, and NIS department. Without the support and cooperation of these departments and citizens we would not be able to fulfill our mandate.

The Board of Registrars of Voters is charged with the responsibility of certifying the validity of voter signatures on registrations, absentee ballots, nomination papers and petitions. As of the March 3, 2009 election the Town of Wellesley had 16047 registered voters. This increase in voter registration can be attributed to the strong voter registration effort prior to the November presidential election.

The members of the Board of Registrars for FY 2009 were: Jane Kettendorf, and George P. D. Porter, Republicans, and Dante Degruttola, Democrat, who served as chair and Kathleen F. Nagle, Unenrolled.

Town Meeting

The Town Clerk is responsible for keeping and publishing the minutes of Town Meeting. On October 20, 2008 a Special Town Meeting met to take action on appropriations for the Wellesley High School building project. The 2009 Annual Town Meeting met for 4 sessions, beginning March 30, 2009 and ending April 7, 2009.

Vital Records and Miscellaneous

During the period July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009 the office processed:

- 203 Birth records
- 89 Marriage Intentions
- 176 Death records.

162 Business Certificates (D/B/A)
2684 Dog Licenses

The office is now in its sixth year as a passport application acceptance agency for the Department of State. During the past year we have processed 352 applications for revenue of \$8810. Revenues were affected by a reduction in the fee the State Department allows agents to collect and the economic conditions affecting foreign travel. We are pleased to offer this service as a convenience to our residents.

Our total receipts for FY 2009 were \$91846.62.

Staffing

At the Annual Town Election Town Clerk Kathleen Nagle was elected to a third three year term, expiring in 2012. There were no staffing changes in the office this year. Existing staff Diane Innes, Elections and Voter Registration Administrator, Jacqui Carmisciano, Assistant Town Clerk, and Debra Blatz, Clerical Assistant continued to serve ably in their positions.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen F. Nagle
Town Clerk