



TOWN OF HULL
OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

253 Atlantic Avenue
Hull, MA 02045
Telephone: 781-773-3803

Lori West MME/CMMC

May 26, 2023

Town Clerk May 26th Update on the 2023 Annual Town Election

Dear Hull Residents, Voters and Candidates,

Attached is a copy of an Order issued this afternoon by Judge Brian S. Glenn of the Plymouth Superior Court. As you are aware, we appeared before Judge Glenn this morning at a hearing on the Town's Second Emergency Motion for relief concerning the Annual Town Election and the travel and other delays caused by the fire occurring during regular voting hours.

We reiterated our position that the Town, through the Town Clerk, and following consultation with and approval of the State Elections Division Director, had offered voters extra time to come to the polls to enfranchise as many voters as possible. We emphasized further that those who voted during the Town sanctioned extended voting hours, like all of the people who voted during regular voting hours, cast their ballots in good faith and in reliance on the Town, and me as the Town Clerk, to run an election consistent with the laws of the Commonwealth.

We are, therefore, pleased to report that Judge Glenn concluded that all of the ballots cast on Election Day must be counted. Despite the time and effort it has taken to get to this point, we are proud that we reacted quickly to protect the interests of all the voters of our good town. This effort is not, and was never, about a particular candidate, or about winning or losing an election. Instead, it was about ensuring the rights of all of the Town's voters to participate in our democratic process.

Judge Glenn also ordered the Town to re-open the polls for a two-hour period so that any voters who were unable to get to the polls because of the fire can vote. We will be meeting next week to plan how to implement this portion of the Judge's order.

Thank you for your patience as we have worked towards finalizing the results of the Annual Town Election. Please visit our website often for updates about the date, time, and place when the polls will be reopened for a limited time.

In closing, we are pleased that Judge Glenn has affirmed our decision on election night to enfranchise voters. Although challenged by circumstances beyond our control, we feel confident that the Town's efforts to protect the rights of all Town voters to participate in the election were successful.

Sincerely,

Lori West
Town Clerk