

## Update for Peaine Township Voters (4-29-2020)

### May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Special Election

As the May 5<sup>th</sup> election quickly approaches, there are a few reminders that are important regarding the unusual circumstances created by the Covid-19 situation. As most people know, this election is absentee only. The Secretary of State provided all registered voters in Peaine Township (as of 3/24/2020) with an absentee ballot application. If you did not receive yours, and would like to receive an absentee ballot, use the link at the bottom of this notice to print a copy and then send the completed form to me. Your signature must be visible. Completed applications can be mailed, or sent electronically. At this point, electronically is the best option given time constraints. If you need assistance in submitting a request for an absentee ballot, please feel free to contact me. Please also remember that completed absentee ballots must be received by the close of polls at 8:00pm on May 5<sup>th</sup> in order to be counted. Also, please do not forget to sign the outside envelope in which the completed ballot is sealed. This signature must be present (and in the designated location on the return envelope) in order for the ballot to be counted.

Many people are wondering if it is still an option to vote in person on election day. Yes, it will be possible to obtain a ballot and vote up until 8:00pm on election day though the Secretary of State is strongly encouraging all voters to vote by mail. However, there will not be a traditional type of polling place as is normal for all other elections. Voters who show up to the polling place on election day will be issued an absentee ballot which, once voted, will be sealed and signed by the voter then returned to the Clerk/election staff. Voters who need to utilize the Voter Assist Terminal will be able to do so on election day. Please be aware that social distancing guidelines will be in place. Everything possible will be done to maintain the safety of everyone on election day, voters and election staff alike. Please follow the current guidelines regarding PPE when in a public location if you choose to come to the polling place on election day.

Individuals who wish to register to vote and wish to vote in the May 5<sup>th</sup> election are required to register with their local clerk within the two weeks prior to election day, and on election day. Residents are strongly encouraged to register to vote via electronic methods. Local clerks are temporarily allowed to accept electronic copies of proof of residency documents (as are required during the two-week period prior to any election or on election day in order to qualify to vote in said election). Please contact me if you wish to register to vote. I will help you through the process.

I will hold office hours on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> for the purpose of voter registration and the issuance of absentee ballots. I will be available at the Peaine Township Hall from 9:00am until 5:00pm. Please call ahead (231-448-3540 or 231-510-1091 to schedule an appointment within those hours). Again, when coming to the township hall in person, social distancing and other safety requirements will be in place.

Thank you and stay safe,

Carla Martin

Peaine Township Clerk

231-510-1091

[peainetownshipclerk@yahoo.com](mailto:peainetownshipclerk@yahoo.com)

Useful Links:

Absentee Application: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot\\_105377\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot_105377_7.pdf)

Voter Information (including sample ballot): <https://mvic.sos.state.mi.us/>