

# ***COVID 19 Protocol / Voting Rules for the Town and School District Meetings of March 2, 2021***

We expect this meeting to proceed rapidly to the issues at hand. Stratton is a Floor Vote Town, meaning that meetings are held in person and issues are voted from the floor. To retain this method during the COVID 19 Pandemic, the following procedure will be followed:

- 1) The meeting will be held at the Stratton Town Hall, 688 Strat.-Arl. Rd., in Stratton. The Hall will be thoroughly cleaned just prior to the meeting and all windows will be opened to allow for fresh air into the building. Hand Sanitizer and Wipes will be available for all attendees. Please refrain from using the restrooms.
- 2) We will attempt to provide a viewing of the meeting on ZOOM so that interested persons may access it remotely :  
<https://zoom.us/j/7612562217> Meeting ID: 761 256 2217 .  
If you do not wish to enter the building, but wish to attend and vote [if a paper ballot is required], we recommend attending on ZOOM in the parking lot (internet access should be available on the “Stratton Public” site).
- 3) If a paper ballot is required, registered voters attending the meeting in the Town Hall and those located in the parking lot of the Town Hall at the time ballots are collected will be allowed to vote.
- 4) Doors to the Town Hall will be opened for attendees no sooner than 15 minutes prior to the meeting. Maintain social distancing from other groups when entering the building and while inside the building.
- 5) All attendees entering the building must wear a face mask.
- 6) No tables will be provided. Chairs will be arranged for proper social distancing and can be organized so that family groups can remain close to one another, but distanced from other groups or individuals also in attendance.
- 7) Attendees should check in with the Clerk to be included on the voter check list. This will allow roll call to proceed quickly.
- 8) No refreshments – drinks, etc. will be allowed into the building or served.
- 9) The meeting is governed by the Moderator, who may apply or alter rules to ensure that a safe, sufficient and legally conducted meeting occurs.
- 10) No Campaigning or discussions in regard to potential persons interested in elected positions are allowed within the Town Hall during any part of the meeting preceding the elections of officers.
- 11) The Moderator will call the meeting to order promptly at 10:00am and the clerk will proceed with roll call.

- 12) During the elections of Town Officials, the meeting will proceed as follows: If you intend to nominate someone, please ensure you are in the Town Hall to do so. If only one person is nominated per position, the Moderator will proceed accordingly to close nominations and secure the position for the nominee; however, if multiple nominations are made, then the vote will proceed to a paper ballot. The Clerk will already have appointed two BCA members to collect ballots. Once the nominees are known, indicate your choice for the position on the paper ballot provided. **PLEASE STAY AT YOUR SEAT!** The BCA members will walk the ballot box around to collect all voted ballots. For registered voters who decided to remain outside the building or in their vehicle in the parking lot, assigned BCA members will ensure those persons are checked off the Voter Checklist and then also collect their ballots – make sure they know that you intend to vote. Each voter must deposit their own vote into the ballot box. The Clerk will at this time tally the number of voters participating in the election and the count will proceed.

*[To win an election, a nominee must have a majority of votes. In the event of three or more nominations, after three consecutive votes, if no one receives a majority of the votes, then the candidate with the lowest number of votes will be removed from the ballot and another round begins, removing the nominee with the least votes after each subsequent round until someone receives a majority.]*

*Should the above scenario play out, each round of voting will be carried out in the same manner as described above.*

- 13) Once all positions have been filled, the Moderator will quickly move to the following articles and conclude the meeting as rapidly as possible.
- 14) Upon Adjournment of the Town Meeting the Moderator will call the School District Meeting to order and that meeting will proceed in the same manner as given above.
- 15) Once the Meetings have concluded, all attendees should exit the Town Hall immediately while maintaining social distancing guidelines. *Newly elected individuals must take their oaths of office before assuming their duties – See the Town Clerk for your oaths.*

Thank you all in advance for following these rules and guidelines.