LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

RESOLUTION 2020-37

RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF MAIL-IN BALLOTS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER, 2020

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey has a Secretary of State and County Clerks in each of the 21 counties whose duties include the administration and overseeing of elections; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey will be holding a General Election in November, 2020; and

WHEREAS, mail-in ballots were used exclusively in the Primary Election in July, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the universal distribution of mail-in ballots to all registered voters caused concerns for voter fraud in mail-in elections and significant delays in counting ballots; and

WHEREAS, the universal distribution of mail-in ballots to all registered voters I, also, of significant cost and is an unfunded mandate; and

WHEREAS, well before the COVID-19 pandemic, New Jersey law permitted voting by mail for any reason, or no reason at all, allowing any voter the option to request a mail-in ballot thus enhancing voter choice; and

WHEREAS, some voters have expressed an opinion of wishing to "wait" until Election Day to cast their ballot electronically for the candidate on their choice to fully assess the latest information available; and

WHEREAS, the Lafayette Township Committee feel strongly that voter "choice" should refer to "how" to vote, not just "who" to vote for in a given election cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Lafayette Township Committee oppose the exclusive use of mail-in balloting in the General Election in November, 2020 and in all future elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Lafayette Township Committee urges the Secretary of State and County Clerks to utilize in-person voting in conjunction with mail-in balloting in the General Election of November, 2020 and in all future elections; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk forward a certified true copy of this Resolution to the New Jersey Secretary of State, Governor of the State of New Jersey, President of the New Jersey State Senate, Speaker of the General Assembly, Sussex County Freeholders, Sussex County Clerk and all Municipalities in Sussex County.

CERTIFICATION

Certified as a true copy of a Resolution adopted by the Lafayette Township Committee of the Township of Lafayette, Sussex County, New Jersey at a meeting held on September 1, 2020.

AnnaRose Fedish, RMC Municipal Clerk