

DESIGNATION OF POLLING PLACE FOR WARD 7

In the year Two Thousand Ten.....

Resolved by the Board of Civil Authority of the City of Burlington, as follows:

That WHEREAS, the next Annual City Meeting will be held in March 2011; and

WHEREAS, the Miller Center, located on Gosse Court, was used for the first time as Ward 7’s designated polling place for the March 2008 Ward 7 City Council Run-off election; and

WHEREAS, during the last two Annual City Meetings, the Miller Center, located on Gosse Court, served as the designated polling place for Ward 7; and

WHEREAS, during the last Annual City Meeting, difficulties with the setting of the polling place made voting difficult for Ward 7 residents, in particular its location at the end of a narrow street which had to provide both ingress and egress for voters resulted in traffic jams and the lack of available parking spaces at the site or nearby at any given time caused at least one voter to frustratedly drive away in his vehicle without voting; and

WHEREAS, the Burlington Bd. of Civil Authority believes there should be no obstacles to citizens exercising their constitutional right to vote but also recognizes that there is more at issue than just a question of convenience for voters, there is also a question of safety as one motor vehicle accident was witnessed at the Miller Center at the last Annual City Meeting along with many other incidents where accidents involving motor vehicles and pedestrians were only narrowly avoided; and

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38 WHEREAS, an online poll of Ward 7 residents was conducted through Front Porch
39 Forum in which 82% of respondents expressed a wish for their polling place in future to be
40 designated at the former location, Lyman C. Hunt Middle School, and a door-to-door survey
41 produced similar results; and

42 WHEREAS, Hunt Middle School not only has two separate roads to serve incoming and
43 outgoing traffic separately, it has much more substantial parking areas than the Miller Center
44 does;

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Burlington Board of Civil Authority
46 pursuant to 17 V.S.A. § 2501, hereby directs the Chief Administrative Officer to seek the
47 permission of the Burlington School District for the Lyman C. Hunt Middle School to host
48 forthcoming elections as the Ward 7 polling place, commencing with the Annual City Meeting in
49 March 2011 and continuing for all other City Meetings, Primary Elections, General Elections
50 and Special Elections thereafter; and

51 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Administrative Officer is further directed
52 to apprise this Board of the School District's decision by Oct 1, 2010.

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