

## TOWN OF LAKEVILLE

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MARCH 5, 2018

Town Clerk Lillian M. Drane, after consultation with members of her election staff and the State Election Division, today offered the following information for voters at the April Town Election.

"Voters who are new to the voting process in Massachusetts, or even long-time Lakeville residents who vote regularly, may be surprised when election workers who are friends or neighbors ask for their street address and full name prior to giving them a ballot. Voters are therefore advised that it is actually state law that requires poll workers to ask for everyone's street address and name, said Lillian Drane."

According to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 54, Section 76, "Each voter desiring to vote at a polling place shall give his name and, if requested, his residence to one of the officers at the entrance to the space within the guard rail, who shall thereupon distinctly announce the same. If such name is found on the voting list, the election officer shall check and repeat the name and shall admit the voter to the space enclosed by the guard rail and... such voter shall be given one ballot."

"In Lakeville we try very hard to make our election experience user-friendly and welcoming. Voting is an important cornerstone of our democracy, but lets be honest, it is also an enjoyable social experience. Please know that any formalities that are imposed upon the voter are for good reason, including state laws, which must be followed. We try to balance the competing interest and look forward to warmly greeting everyone on Election Day," said Lillian Drane. "My staff appreciates your understanding in the meantime," she added.

The Annual Town Election will be held on Monday, April 2, 2018 from Noon-8:00 p.m. All Lakeville voters from Precinct 1, 2 & 3, vote at the Ted Williams Camp-Loon Pond Lodge, located at 28 Precinct Street. If you have further questions or need more information about the voting process, don't hesitate to contact Town Clerk Lillian Drane at 508-946-8800 or <a href="mailto:ldrane@lakevillema.org">ldrane@lakevillema.org</a>.