



June 17, 2020

Ms. Carolyn Mahar
District Treasurer
Rye Neck Union Free School District
310 Hornridge Road
Mamaroneck, New York 10543

Re: Observation of tallying of District Budget Vote

Dear Carolyn,

In response to the request of the Board of Education of the **Rye Neck Union Free School District** (hereafter referred to as “District”) we were present and observed the tallying (counting) of the absentee ballots cast for the 2020-21 Budget and School Board Member vote

The District clerk maintained control of the process of mailing the absentee ballots to each voter on the registered voter list (the voter list having been provided by the County Board of Elections). The absentee ballots were mailed by the District by May 21, 2020.

Returned ballots were either received by US Mail or dropped off at the District’s administration office. The original deadline for receipt, regardless of method of delivery, was 5pm, June 9, 2020. The deadline for mail delivery was extended, by an Executive order of the Governor, to 5pm June 16, 2020. The deadline for dropping off ballots at the District’s administration office remained 5pm June 9, 2020.

A total of 1,983 ballots were received by the district. Of the 1,983 ballots, 47 were declared void for the following reasons;

- | | |
|--|----|
| • Illegible information or unsigned oath envelope | 36 |
| • Ballots dropped off at District administration office after June 9 | 4 |
| • Deceased or Other | 7 |

A total of 1,936 ballots were determined to be valid to be counted.

Observation of the tallying process

We observed the election inspectors as they verified the absentee ballots submitted by the registered voters of the District, and the counting of same in accordance with the following procedures developed by the District’s legal counsel. Specifically that -

- Oath envelopes, containing the ballots, were not opened prior to 5 PM on June 16th;
- Election inspectors verified that only ballots contained in ballot envelopes, with the names of registered voters, were canvassed;
- Election inspectors separated the ballots from envelopes in order to insure the privacy of vote;
- Only election inspectors recorded/counted the ballots;

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Observation of the tallying process, concluded

- Ballots were bundled in packages of 50 ballots, each and each package had a tally sheet with 50 lines,
- The election inspector recorded the votes cast on each ballot on a separate line of the tally sheet, totaled the votes recorded, and signed off on the respective tally sheet,
- Each package of 50 ballots was then given to a different election inspector to repeat/verify the process of recording the votes, totaling the votes, and signing off on the totals shown on the sheet,
- The District Clerk verified the totals on each tally sheet and reconciled the total number of ballots recorded with the number of ballots previously determined to be valid,
- The District Clerk then compiled the totals from each ballot package on a master sheet to determine the results of the election,
- Throughout the entire counting process social distancing was practiced.

On a random basis, we selected 4 tally sheets from ballot packages and re-added the columns on the selected tally sheets. We found that all totals, as recorded, were correct.

We also re-added the amounts on the District Clerk's master sheet. We found that the totals recorded on the master sheet totals were correct

Thank you for allowing us to be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,



Sanossian, Sardis & Co., LLP