

## **News from Avon Township**

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### ***Contribution submitted for News from Avon Township – August 22, 2018***

If you had a chance to vote in the Primary Election last week, you signed in using our new electronic roster system. It was the first big test of our ePoll books. They worked beautifully.

Pre-registered voters breezed through checkout. Even those who needed to register to vote were processed much more quickly than in the past.

The turnout for the election was incredible. The Secretary of State office reports that 22.7% of eligible residents voted. Almost exactly the same percentage (22.3%) of Township residents voted, too. This was the highest voter turnout for the Primary Election in decades.

We have three ePoll books but decided to setup just two of them for this election. We didn't anticipate the high voter turnout and this caused a slight delay for a few voters. We won't make that mistake again. We will have at least three operating ePoll books for our future elections. This will further reduce any waiting time, especially for those registering to vote.

Voting went so smoothly at our polling place because we have excellent judges. Each was required to participate in one or more training sessions. Many thanks to Head Judge Kelly Martini, and her outstanding team including Deb Angulski, Lisa Baker, Sharon Beach, Marion Gondringer, Joyce Hess, Jane Merdan, Ken Mergen, Bev Nathe, and Sue Rushmeyer. If you would like to be a judge for a future election, contact me.

At the upcoming Planning Commission meeting on Wednesday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, we will hold a public hearing to consider a request to construct an addition on a home closer to the road than is currently permitted.

Depending on which zoning district you live in (*i.e.*, R1, A40), structures need to be set back from the road a prescribed distance. If you want to build closer to the road, you must first receive a variance from the Township. The County will alert you to the need for a variance when you apply for a building permit.

If you need a variance, the typical procedure is to present your case to the Planning Commission (PC). They then recommend to the Board of Supervisors to approve holding a public hearing at the next PC meeting. Once approved, the public hearing is published in this newspaper, posted, and neighbors are sent a letter alerting them to the hearing. The PC then

holds the hearing and makes a recommendation to the Supervisors about whether or not to approve the variance. The Supervisors then make the final decision.

If you are interested in learning more about this process, contact me or stop by a meeting of the PC or Board of Supervisors.