

## **PROPOSAL 3 CHANGES FOR ZEELAND CHARTER TOWNSHIP VOTERS**

During the November 6, 2018 election, voters statewide approved ballot proposal 3 which changes some of the laws around voter registration and voting absentee.

The implementation process has begun. Passed by the legislature and signed by former Governor Snyder before the New Year, certain changes took effect immediately. More changes are yet to come but below is a breakdown of some recent legislation and what it means for voters in Zeeland Charter Township.

- **Voter Registration**
  - Voters may register to vote by mail, online, or in person until the 15th day prior to any election (was 30 days prior to an election). First-time voters may need to show an ID or proof of residency before being issued a ballot.
  - On the 14th day, and continuing through Election Day, voters may register to vote in person **at the city or township clerk's office where they reside ONLY** (voters who register to vote by mail, online, in person with the Secretary of State, County or a local City, Township or Village where they don't reside will be registered to vote in the next upcoming election). Residency requirements still apply.
- **Absentee Voting**
  - Local Clerks must receive a request to provide an absentee ballot **by mail** no later than 5pm on the Friday before the election (formerly 2pm Saturday)
  - Local Clerks cannot issue an AV ballot to a registered voter after **4pm on the Monday before the election** (no change from current practice)
  - Local Clerks can issue an AV ballot to a voter who is registering to vote at the city/township clerk's office until **8pm on Election Day**
  - Registered voters no longer need to have a reason to receive an "absentee" ballot. Zeeland Charter Township maintains a permanent list of voters who wish to receive an application for an absentee ballot for each election. Any registered voter in Zeeland Charter Township may be on the list. To join our Permanent Absentee Voter list, please contact our office by phone at (616)772-6701, or by email at [kate.kraak@zeelandtwp.org](mailto:kate.kraak@zeelandtwp.org).
- **Additional Hours / Locations for Receiving AV Ballots**
  - City and township clerks must be available in their offices to issue and receive AV ballots for **at least 8 hours on the Saturday or Sunday immediately before an election**
  - With the approval of a city or township board resolution, city or township clerks may specify additional hours or locations that the clerk will be available to issue and receive AV ballots
    - A notice with specific information on these dates and times must be posted **at least 30 days prior to the election**

Please contact the Zeeland Charter Township Clerk's office at [Kate.kraak@zeelandtwp.org](mailto:kate.kraak@zeelandtwp.org) or (616)772-6701 if you have any questions regarding these changes or if you would like to be placed on the permanent "absentee" voter list.