

CITY OF NEWBURYPORT



IN CITY COUNCIL

ORDERED:

January 18, 2024

WHEREAS, the current Ward 1P Polling Place is located at the Plum Island Boat House, 300 Northern Boulevard, Newburyport, and

WHEREAS, said Plum Island Boat House is not accessible for use due to the recent weather conditions including the flooding of the parking lot rendering the building inaccessible as a polling place and creating a public safety concern for potential voters, and

WHEREAS, the People's United Methodist Church located at 64 Purchase Street is within the boundaries of Ward 1 and is the current State approved Polling Location for Ward 1, and

WHEREAS, Amended Article 114 of the Massachusetts Constitution and 950 CMR § 51.00 encourages the fundamental right to vote by improving access for handicapped and elderly individuals to polling places and the voting process, and

WHEREAS, the People's Methodist Church has passed the State mandated Polling Place Site Access Survey and approved locally by the ADA Coordinator.

Now, Therefore, the City Council of the City of Newburyport hereby states that specifically for the January 23rd special election, public accessibility and public safety is better served by this change and such change would not have a disparate or adverse impact on access to the polls based on race, national origin, disability, income or age and approves the relocation of the Ward 1P Polling Location from the Plum Island Boat House to the People's United Methodist Church, 64 Purchase Street for the January 23rd special election. Further changes to the polling location, temporary or permanent, would require a new City Council Order.

Councillor Sharif I. Zeid