



Municipal Canvassing Board

Date: November 12, 2013

Subject: Canvass of Returns from the City of Minneapolis – 2013 Municipal Election

Recommendation: Adopt an order which:

1. Certifies the official results of the 2013 Municipal Election;
2. Declares official winners in each race on the ballot, indicating the names of each person receiving votes and the number of votes received by each office voted upon;
3. Declares the official results for each question on the ballot, indicating the number of votes for and against each question voted upon; and
4. Directs the City Clerk to submit a certified copy of the official results of the 2013 Municipal Election to the Hennepin County Auditor and to file and preserve the original returns and all election records for the 2013 Municipal Election in accordance with Minnesota Election Law.

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Background: Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 205.185, subd. 3, the governing body of a city conducting an election shall act as the canvassing board for such election. In that capacity, the governing board must convene between the third and tenth day after the date of the election to canvass the returns and declare the official results. The declaration of final results in the election by the canvassing board triggers a seven-day contest period, as provided under Minn. Stat. § 209.021, during which time any eligible voter, including a candidate for public office, may contest the nomination or election of any person for whom that voter had the right to vote if that person is declared nominated or elected or the declared result of a constitutional amendment or other question voted upon at an election. The contest may be brought over an irregularity in the conduct of the election or the canvass of votes, over the question of who received the largest number of votes legally cast, over the number of votes legally cast in favor of or against a question, or on the grounds of deliberate, serious, and material violations of Minnesota Election Law. After the seven-day contest period has passed, the City Clerk shall issue a certificate of election to each candidate who was successfully declared the winner as a result of the canvass.

A statistical analysis of the 2013 Municipal Election is attached for reference.