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**Voting Information For 2010 Primary Election**

Councilman Andy Lewis has announced that federal and state election laws require new voters in an election district to provide proof of identification before casting a ballot in the Municipal Primary Election to be held on May 18.

The polls will be open for the casting of ballots from 7 AM-8 PM on Election Day, Lewis said. "Any voter who is in line when the polls close at 8 PM will be permitted to vote," he said.

"However," Lewis said, "the requirement that no one will be permitted to get in line to vote once the polls close will be strictly enforced."

The U.S. Help America Vote Act (HAVA) also permits the casting of provisional ballots under certain circumstances. It furthermore allows voters to file complaints based on a perceived violation of HAVA by an election official.

Lewis said the requirements of HAVA which was enacted in 2002 went into effect for the first time in the 2004 Primary Election.

"Special training programs are held before elections for judges of elections and other municipal board members of the 428 precincts in Delaware County to instruct them on the requirements," Lewis said. "Our intent is to follow the letter of the law in requiring that proper identification for first-time voters be provided when voting."

Identification which will be accepted from persons voting in a precinct for the first time include both photo identification or non-photo identification if it displays the name and address of the voter, Lewis said. A person is considered a first-time voter in a new precinct even if the voter has voted in another voting precinct in previous elections, he said.

**1st ad HAVA (5/4/10)**

Approved photo identification (ID) which will be accepted include a Pennsylvania driver's license or ID card issued by the state Department of Transportation, ID issued by any other agency of the Commonwealth or by the U.S. Government, a U.S. passport, a U.S. Armed Forces ID, a student ID or an employee ID.

Non-photo identification which is acceptable include a voter's identification card issued by the Delaware County Voter Registration Commission, non-photo IDs issued by the Commonwealth or the U.S. Government, a firearm permit, a current utility bill, bank statement or paycheck or a government check.

Voters will be permitted to cast a provisional ballot if the person is at the polling precinct and claims to be properly registered and eligible to vote in the precinct, but the person's name doesn't appear on the general register and election officials can't determine eligibility.

Within seven days after an election, the County Board of Elections will examine a provisional ballot to determine its validity.

A complaint can be filed under HAVA if a person believes an election official or employee has violated, is violating or is about to violate provisions of Title III of HAVA, said Lewis. Forms with filing instructions can be acquired from the judge of elections in the precinct.