Peterson Joins Austerman on Assembly as Voters Approve Prop 1

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Brianna Gibbs/KMXT

Preliminary results from yesterday’s election are in, with 2,204 people casting their votes at Kodiak’s nine precincts.

The ballot only featured one major contested race with three folks running for Kodiak Island Borough Assembly. Frank Peterson Jr. garnered the most votes with 830; he’ll take one of the two three year seats alongside incumbent Carol Austerman who was re-elected with 727 votes. Dennis Symmons came up short with 629 votes, but he will join the Service Area No. 1 Board, which was an uncontested race. Natasha Hayden will take that board’s other seat.

The other contested race this year was for the Monashka Bay Road Service Area Board. Three candidates were vying for two three year seats. Tom Lance and Randy Spivey tied with 44 votes each to join that board. Darlene Turner received 14 votes.

Proposition one was approved by the voters with 848 people voting yes, 462 voting no. The proposition asked if an ordinance regarding conflict of interest should be added to borough code. It prevents those in public office from being employed by the borough, or entering into personal service contracts with the borough. Borough Clerk Nova Javier said she needs to work with the borough attorney to figure out how the proposition will be implemented.

Other than that, most races were determined before election day with candidates running unopposed. Jerrol Friend will take the office of Borough Mayor and Pat Branson was re-elected as City Mayor.

Javier said those elected into office will be sworn in during the next meetings for the respective governing bodies. She said they will then take office officially the Monday after that meeting.