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Warren Clerk Issues Statement on the Decision to Rent Rather Than Purchase the DS950 High-Speed Scanner and Tabulator

Warren, MI (Oct. 28, 2024) – “The City Clerk’s office has decided to rent the DS950 High-Speed Scanner and Tabulator, allowing us to thoroughly evaluate its performance before considering a full purchase. Through an arrangement with the vendor, we have the unique opportunity to use the machine in an actual election, proving that it works as expected to meet our high standards of accuracy and efficiency.

As City Clerk, I’ve administered elections for 24 years, with a steadfast commitment to accuracy above all else, followed closely by speed. For this reason, I made the decision not to engage in early pre-processing of absentee ballots. While pre-processing can be a valuable option, I believe that for our city, it would ultimately take more time and resources. The need for additional personnel, extensive storage, and the time required to organize the votes afterward would stretch the process over eight days, versus one efficient day of counting.

Importantly, pre-processing is not a requirement for clerks in our state. The legislature allowed pre-processing as an option rather than a mandate, and I have chosen to prioritize a one-day processing approach to ensure the highest standards of security and efficiency. Extending this process over several days can create unnecessary risks, including the potential for unauthorized access to election data. Protecting the integrity of the election remains my top priority.

We are prepared to deliver timely results without compromising on accuracy, and I have full confidence in my team’s ability to uphold these standards. Despite the scrutiny, I urge the public not to let it deter them from exercising their right to vote. We are committed to a secure, accurate, and efficient election, and as always, thank you for voting.”

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