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Ex-Mayor May Have Won Back Job

November 6, 1999

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CARBONDALE, Pa. (AP) — A former mayor who once served prison time in a vote-fraud scheme may have his old job back via a write-in campaign.

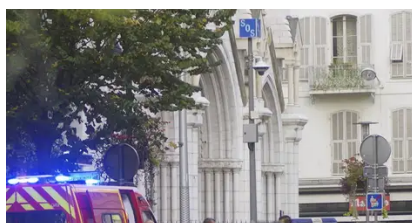
If Joseph Vadella is credited with write-in votes last week that include “Vadella” with no first name, “Joe V.” and simply “Joe,” he’ll have 1,276 votes, compared to 1,255 votes for Democrat John “Jigger” Jordan and 779 for Republican nominee Frank Grecco Jr.

The Lackawanna County Board of Elections must now decide which of the variants of his name will make the official count.

Two years ago, Vadella resigned as Carbondale mayor following a guilty plea in a vote fraud case that sent him to prison for four months.

During his administration, Vadella aggravated many with his maverick style of governing, but also endeared himself to others by cutting red tape to get things done.

If Vadella does win, his opponents may challenge whether he can legally be mayor because he is still on probation. Opponents could file a lawsuit seeking to bar him from office.



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