

STONINGTON REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

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BY-LAWS AS OF May 19, 2022

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ARTICLE I -TOWN COMMITTEE RULES

Section I

- a) The Stonington Republican Town Committee (hereafter referred to as the Town Committee) shall be the sole authority for the Republican Party for the Town of Stonington.
- b) The goal of the Town Committee is to seek out, designate and secure the election of qualified Republican candidates for Town, State and Federal offices.
- c) The Town Committee is open to all interested Republicans and offers equal opportunities of participation without regard to race, age, creed, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin.
- d) Membership on the Town Committee carries with it a responsibility for attendance at all meetings.
- e) The Republican Selectmen, Treasurer, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Probate Judge, and Registrar in Stonington shall be members of the Town Committee ex-officio with all rights of membership except the right to vote, unless they are elected members of the town committee or fill a vacancy in town committee membership in accordance with these bylaws.
- f) All regular meetings of the Town Committee shall be open to any Republican Elector or to anyone.
- g) Town Committee members shall abide by Town, State and National Republican Party Rules, not to supersede Connecticut General Statutes.
- h) Twenty-Five percent (25%) of the filled membership of the Town Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.
- i) In addition to those duties incidental to the proper fulfillment of their membership, the Town Committee shall perform the following specific functions:
 1. Appointing of delegates to the State and District Conventions, and;
 2. Endorsing candidates for Municipal Offices.
 3. Acting as, or acting as the agent for establishing, a Nominating Committee at caucuses called for the purpose of endorsing candidates for the Town Committee.

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4. Recommending individuals for membership on duly constituted boards, agencies and commissions of the Town of Stonington.
5. Requiring all elected members of the Town Committee to sign up for participation in at least one of the following categories of activity: elections, fund raising, or standing committees. Members shall be required to commit in advance of each term.
6. Raising funds to support party endorsed Republican candidates for Town, State and Federal office or for any other purpose approved by the membership of the Town Committee

ARTICLE II – CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

Section I

- a) All meetings of the Town Committee, Party caucuses, and duly appointed subcommittees shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, except as otherwise specified.

ARTICLE III - QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section I

- a) Any Member and/or Officer shall be an enrolled Republican elector of the Town of Stonington at the time of and during the term of his or her election.
- b) Any candidate to the Town Committee who has changed party affiliation to the Republican Party at least ninety (90) days prior to the caucus is eligible for membership. Notwithstanding the foregoing, a previously unaffiliated elector who has registered with the Republican Party prior to the date of the caucus as shown on the last completed list of electors provided by the Republican Registrar of Voters shall be eligible for membership.

ARTICLE IV - ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section I

- a) The total number of members of the Town Committee shall be equal to (forty seven) 47. Additional positions shall be filled by the remaining members of the committee present and voting at a meeting in accordance with Article IV, Section 1 h herein.

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- b) In addition to those general laws of the State of Connecticut, which govern the conducting of caucuses, the following procedure shall be followed in caucuses called for the purpose of endorsing candidates for membership on the Town Committee.
1. The Chairperson of the Town Committee or their duly designated appointee shall be responsible for the conducting of the caucus.
 2. The Chairperson of the Candidate Recruitment Committee shall present its slate of nominees for election to the Town Committee. Nominations shall also be taken from the floor and any individual is allowed to nominate himself/herself provided there is also a second to such self-nomination.
 3. The Republican electors present will, by ballot, elect the candidates to the Town Committee using the following procedure for conducting the election:
 - (a) Once all nominations have been made, a printed ballot shall be created listing all persons nominated for election which shall be distributed to the Republican electors present. Each such elector shall mark their choices on the ballot not exceeding the total number of members of the Town Committee to be elected as determined herein. Any ballot that has selected more than the maximum number shall be deemed void. The nominees having the highest number of votes, up to the maximum number of Town Committee members to be elected, shall be declared so elected. In the case of any tie between nominees among those with the lowest number of votes for the last eligible seats on the Town Committee, the caucus shall conduct a run-off election among those nominees only until the maximum number of Town Committee seats have been filled.
 4. The Chairperson will read the results of the party-endorsed candidates. The Chairperson may entertain a motion enabling the Secretary to cast a ballot for the nominees.
- c) All enrolled Members of the Republican Party, as defined in Article III, Section 1(b) of these Bylaws, are entitled to vote at the caucus. The date for the caucus shall be not earlier than fifty-six (56) days and not later than forty-nine (49) days before the date for the primary in the even numbered years. The office of the Secretary of State determines the date of the primary.
- d) Not later than forty-eight (48) days before the primary date, the list of party candidates shall be filed with the Town Clerk.

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- e) Should a primary be called, the challenger must create a slate to challenge the slate. The Town Committee shall see that notice of the primary date is published in the local newspaper at least ten (10) days before the primary date.
- f) On or about the second Monday following their election the members-elect of the Town Committee shall meet for organization at the call of the previous Chairperson to elect a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary and such other Officers as may be deemed advisable. The Chairperson may cast a vote to break a tie, including a tie in the vote for the selection of party endorsed candidates.

Each of the officers shall have the duties usually incident to their office and such other duties as the Town Committee may from time to time prescribe.

Within one (1) week after organization of the Town Committee, the Secretary shall file with the Secretary of the Republican State Central Committee, a list of names and addresses of the Officers and Members of the Town Committee.

- g) Officers and other Members of the Town Committee shall hold office for two (2) years or until their successors have been chosen. At any regular or special meeting of the Town Committee called for such purpose, upon the vote of 2/3rd of the entire membership of the Town Committee, any officer may be removed from office through a vote of no confidence.
- h) Vacancies in town committee membership shall be filled by the full Town Committee by a simple majority vote of those present and voting. Vacancies of officers in the Town Committee shall be filled by a simple majority vote provided there is a quorum, at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Town Committee, provided at least seven (7) days notice of the vacancy has been included in the call of the meeting.
- i) At their first regularly scheduled meeting following their election, the Town Committee shall determine the number, time and place of regular meetings. Should two-fifths (2/5) of the Members present so elect, however, the call of such meeting may be left indeterminate and at the discretion of the newly elected Chairperson.

Special meetings of the Town Committee may be called by the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, or upon the written request of a majority of Members, presented to the Chairperson or Secretary. Upon receipt of a request, the Chairperson shall instruct the secretary to give, or the Secretary shall give, at least seven (7) business days notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting to all Members of the Committee.

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ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section I

a) Chairperson:

1. Conduct Town Committee meetings.
2. Secure a report at each Town Committee meeting as to what transpired at the most recent State Central Meeting or see to it that a State Central Committee person delivers such a report.
3. Attend Senatorial District meetings.
4. Attend Congressional District meetings.

b) Vice-Chairperson:

1. Serve as Chairperson or Co-chairperson of the Candidate Recruitment Committee.
2. Upon the occurrence of a vacancy in the Office of Town Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall be responsible for determining the time, date and place for a meeting to select a new Chairperson, which meeting shall be called by the Vice-Chairperson after the vacancy occurs. If the Vice-Chairperson does not issue the call for the meeting within two weeks of the vacancy, the State Central Committee person shall be so responsible.
3. Attend all Senatorial District meetings.
4. Attend Congressional District meetings.

c) Secretary:

1. Notify Town Chairperson, Town Committee Members, and State Central Committee Members of the date, time and place of each Town Committee meeting.
2. Keep a record of minutes of each meeting and ensure that the Town Committee acts upon the minutes of each meeting.
3. Keep attendance records of the Town Committee meetings and report the totals to the Town Committee bi-annually.
4. Furnish to the State Chairperson at least every six (6) months, minutes of the meetings held during the previous six (6) months.

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5. Furnish to the State Chairperson at least annually a list of Town Committee Officers and notify the State Chairperson of changes as they occur.
 6. Send true and accurate copies of local party rules and any amendments to such rules to the State Party Chairperson and Town Clerk indicating the date on which such rules and amendments were adopted within fifteen (15) days of such adoption.
- d) Treasurer:
1. Give a financial report at each Town Committee meeting.
 2. Ensure that all election finance laws are complied with by the Town Committee and assist various campaign treasurers with compliance.
- e) Standing Committees:

The Chairperson of the Town Committee shall within one (1) month of his or her election establish working standing committees including but not limited to the following:

1. Candidate Recruitment Committee
2. Publicity and Public Affairs
3. Planning Committee

The Chairperson of the Town Committee, subject to the approval of the full Town Committee, shall name the Chairperson (Co-chairperson) of each such Standing Committee and any ad hoc committees, with the exception of the Candidate Recruitment Committee, and shall require a report as to the doings of each committee from each chairperson (co-chairperson) at the regularly held Town Committee meetings.

- f) The Town Committee shall have the right to establish ad hoc committees, as needed from time to time, and to appoint the members thereof.

ARTICLE VI – BY-LAW CHANGES

Amendments may be made to any/or either of these By-Laws by the Town Committee, provided written notice of any proposed amendment(s) shall be given to the members of the Town Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to such amendment(s) being brought up for a vote of the Town Committee. Any amendment adopted shall be filed with the Secretary of the State. The amendment shall be effective sixty (60) days after the date that it is so filed.

