

Effective April 5, 1976.

REPUBLICAN PARTY RULES
DURHAM, CONNECTICUT

ARTICLE I

TOWN COMMITTEE

SECTION 1. COMPOSITION. The Town Committee shall have thirty-five (35) members elected from the town at large.

SECTION 2. QUALIFICATIONS. No person shall be an elected member or officer of the Town Committee unless he/she be an enrolled Republican elector of the Town of Durham at the time of and during the term of his/her office.

SECTION 3. ELECTION. (a) Primary - The day for holding a primary for the election of Town Committee members shall be the first (1st) Tuesday in March in the even numbered years.

- (b) Notice - Article IV Section 1(b) shall apply.
- (c) Endorsement - Article IV Section 2(a) shall apply.
- (d) Call of Caucus - Article IV Section 2(b) shall apply.
- (e) Election - Article IV Section 3 shall apply.

SECTION 4. TERM. The terms of Town Committee members shall start on the first (1st) Monday following the date of the primary set in connection with their election, and they shall serve for two (2) years or until their successors have been chosen, but not more than twenty-six (26) months. The terms of all members shall end on the same day.

SECTION 5. OFFICERS. (a) The Town Committee shall have a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and such other officers as may be deemed advisable.

(b) The officers shall be elected by the newly-elected Town Committee at a meeting held within two (2) weeks after the beginning of their terms as specified in Section 4, at the call of the previous Chairman or, in the event of his/her failure to act, at the call of a member of the State Central Committee from the district in which said Chairman resides. The Chairman may be chosen from within or without the membership of the Town Committee and may cast a vote to break a tie, including a tie in the vote for the selection of party-endorsed candidates. This vote, if necessary, shall be in addition to any voting rights said Chairman may have. Other officers may be chosen from without the membership of the committee, but if so chosen, they shall be without a vote.

(c) The terms of all officers shall be for two (2) years or until their successors have been duly elected and qualified, but no more than twenty-six (26) months.

(d) Each of the officers shall have the duties usually incident to his/her office including the duties specified in the State Republican Party Rules and other such duties as the Town Chairman may from time to time prescribe.

(e) The books of the Treasurer shall be audited within a period of one (1) month before the newly-elected Town Committee takes office in the even numbered years. The audit shall be done by three (3) members of the Town Committee.

SECTION 6. NOTICE AFTER ORGANIZATION. The Corresponding Secretary shall, within one (1) week after organization of the Town Committee, file with the Secretary of the State Central Committee the names and addresses of the officers and members of the Town Committee and the name and address of the Republican Registrar of Voters.

SECTION 7. VACANCIES (COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS). Vacancies occurring for any reason in the Town Committee membership or elected officers shall be announced at each regular meeting as they occur and shall be filled by vote of the remaining members of the committee at its next regular meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose.

SECTION 8. MEETINGS. Regular meetings of the Town Committee shall be held at least nine (9) times a year with a minimum of two (2) in each quarter. Special meetings may be called at any time by the Chairman at his/her discretion or shall be called by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman within ten (10) days after receipt of a written request signed by at least fourteen (14) members of the Town Committee stating the purpose of the meeting. All Town Committee meetings shall be open to the public unless the Town Committee shall, because of unusual circumstances, by majority vote, elect to go into executive session.

The Chairman shall instruct the Corresponding Secretary to give five (5) days written notice of the time and place of all meetings to the Town Committee members and to the members of the State Central Committee of the district and to also state the purpose of any special meetings. If circumstances beyond the control of the Chairman or the committee require quick action the five (5) day notice may be waived.

Fourteen (14) members shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

Reports shall be given at each regular Town Committee meeting of (1) the last State Central Committee meeting, either by a member of the State Central Committee or through the Town Chairman, and (2) the last Policy Committee meeting.

Each member shall attend as many duly called meetings as possible, expect to serve on at least one (1) committee and undertake his/her share of the duties and monetary obligations pursuant to the effective operation of the Town Committee. Any member who fails to attend at least fifty (50) percent of the regular meetings during the first (1st) twenty (20) months of his/her current term may be ineligible for endorsement for membership for the next succeeding term.

SECTION 9. COMMITTEES. The Town Committee shall have the following standing committees with the chairmen and members of said committees, except as indicated, appointed by the Town Chairman within one (1) month of his/her election:

(a) The Policy Committee shall have six (6) members who shall be the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Recording Secretary and Treasurer of the Town Committee and two (2) members appointed by the Town Chairman. It shall establish policy by which the Town Committee shall operate. Policy Committee meetings shall be open to any Town Committee member;

(b) The Candidate Recruitment Committee shall have six (6) members with its function that of seeking out appealing, qualified men and women to run for public office, to serve on the Town Committee and to serve on other town agencies;

(c) The Finance Committee shall have five (5) members and shall be responsible for fund raising by honorable means;

(d) The Voter Registration Committee shall have three (3) members who shall enlist as many workers, from the Town Committee and the town at large, as are necessary to accomplish its task. It shall be primarily responsible to maintain an awareness of new residents and newly-eligible voters and to assist these prospective voters in any way possible;

(e) The Publicity and Public Affairs Committee shall have three (3) members and shall coordinate and initiate publicity and programs for enhancing the image of the Republican Party, particularly on the local level;

(f) Other committees shall be appointed by the Town Chairman for purposes and conditions as deemed advisable.

SECTION 10. PROXY VOTING NOT PERMITTED. Proxy voting shall not be permitted in any action of the Town Committee.

SECTION 11. INCREASE IN TOWN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP. The membership of the Town Committee may be increased at any time by so amending these rules and provided that the members elected to fill the new positions so created shall be chosen in the following manner:

- (1) Primary - The day for holding a primary for the election of Town Committee members to fill the new positions on the committee shall be fixed by the Town Committee provided that it be no earlier than fifty-six (56) days after the date the amended rules become effective;
- (2) Notice - Article IV Section 1(b) shall apply;
- (3) Endorsement - Article IV Section 2(a) shall apply;
- (4) Call of Caucus - Article IV Section 2(b) shall apply;
- (5) Election - Article IV Section 3 shall apply;
- (6) Term - The terms of members filling the new positions shall start on the first (1st) Monday following the date of the primary set in connection with their election, and shall end on the same day as all other members of the Town Committee. Succeeding terms shall be concurrent with the other members of the Town Committee.

SECTION 12. PARTY FUNDS NOT TO BE SPENT IN PRIMARIES. Neither the Town Committee nor any officer thereof shall expend any party funds, unless specifically contributed for such purpose, on behalf of any candidate in a pre-endorsement contest or in a primary.

SECTION 13. REMOVAL OF TOWN COMMITTEE OFFICERS. (a) The Town Chairman, Vice-Chairman or other elected officers of the Town Committee may be removed by the affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the entire authorized membership of the Town Committee at a duly warned meeting called for that purpose by one-third (1/3) of the members of the Town Committee.

(b) Not less than five (5) days written notice shall be given of any meeting called under subsection (a) of this section.

ARTICLE II

PARTY-ENDORSED CANDIDATES

SECTION 1. NOMINATION. (a) Primary - The day for holding primaries for the nomination of party-endorsed candidates for town office shall be the fifty-sixth (56th) day preceding the day of the election.

(b) Notice - Article IV Section 1(b) shall apply.

(c) Endorsement - Article IV Section 2(a) shall apply. All such endorsements shall be made on the same day.

(d) Call of Caucus - Article IV Section 2(b) shall apply.

(e) Nomination - Article IV Section 3 shall apply.

SECTION 2. VACANCIES (NOMINATIONS AND CANDIDACIES). Any vacancy occurring in the party-endorsed candidates before a primary or in the party nominations before an election, under the conditions stated in Sections 9-426, 9-428, 9-429, 9-430 and 9-460 of the General Statutes, shall be filled by the Town Committee.

ARTICLE III

PARTY-ENDORSED DELEGATES

SECTION 1. QUALIFICATIONS. All delegates and alternates must be enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Durham at the time they act.

SECTION 2. ELECTION. (a) Primary - The day for holding primaries for the election of party-endorsed delegates to district and state conventions shall be the first (1st) Tuesday in May in the even numbered years.

(b) Notice - Article IV Section 1(b) shall apply.

(c) Endorsement - Article IV Section 2(a) shall apply.

(d) Call of Caucus - Article IV Section 2(b) shall apply.

(e) Election - Article IV Section 3 shall apply.

SECTION 3. ALTERNATES. Each delegate after being lawfully elected shall immediately designate in writing an alternate delegate to act for him/her in his/her absence. In the event of the inability of any delegate or his/her alternate to attend a convention, the elected delegate may designate in writing a substitute alternate. In the event of the inability of an elected delegate to act for any reason, including the provisions of Section 1 of this Article, his/her designated alternate shall have all of his/her powers and duties.

In the event of the inability of both the elected delegate and his/her designated alternate to act, including the provisions of Section 1 of this Article, the remaining delegate or delegates from the Town of Durham shall designate an alternate to act in his/her place.

SECTION 4. CERTIFICATION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES. It shall be the duty of the Chairman of the Town Committee to send a list of delegates and their designated alternates to the Secretary of the State Central Committee immediately after their election as such delegates. Certification of delegates not filed with the State Central Committee within three (3) weeks of their lawful election shall be declared delinquent and subject to review by the Credentials Committee of the convention.

SECTION 5. SLATE OF DELEGATES. Delegates to any convention shall be equal in number to the number of delegates to which the Town of Durham is entitled, and such slate shall be endorsed as a unit.

ARTICLE IV

PRIMARY AND ENDORSEMENT PROCEDURES

SECTION 1. PRIMARY. (a) Date of Primary - The day for holding primaries for the election of Town Committee members or delegates to conventions or to nominate party-endorsed candidates for town office shall be as specified in the appropriate Article of these rules.

(b) Notice of Primary - The Town Chairman or, in the event of his/her failure to act, the Vice-Chairman shall publish notice of the primary date in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of Durham at least fifty-six (56) days before the date set for the primary.

SECTION 2. ENDORSEMENT. (a) Caucus - Party-endorsed candidates for Town Committee membership or as delegates to conventions or as nominees for town office shall be selected at caucuses of enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Durham held not earlier than the forty-second (42nd) day nor later than the fortieth (40th) day preceding the dates set for the various primaries. The names of such party-endorsed candidates shall be filed with the Town Clerk of the Town of Durham not later than the thirty-ninth (39th) day preceding the dates of the various primaries by the Chairman or presiding officer and the Secretary of the Town Committee or caucus.

(b) Call of Caucus - The Town Chairman or, in the event of his/her failure to act, the Vice-Chairman shall call such caucus, designating the time, place and day, by publishing said call in a newspaper having a circulation in the Town of Durham

at least five (5) days before the date of such caucus. But if the Town Chairman or Vice-Chairman shall fail to act, a member of the State Central Committee for the district in which said Chairman resides shall call the caucus.

(c) Tie Votes on Endorsement - The presiding officer of any endorsement caucus shall cast a vote to break a tie. This vote, if necessary, shall be in addition to any regular voting rights such presiding officer may have.

SECTION 3. ELECTION. Candidates for Town Committee membership or as delegates to conventions or as nominees for town office shall be deemed to be lawfully elected or nominated when: (1) no candidate nor slate of candidates other than party-endorsed candidates has been filed by four (4) o'clock p.m. on the twenty-fifth (25th) day preceding the day of the primary; (2) they are duly elected or nominated as a result of a primary; (3) otherwise lawfully elected or nominated.

ARTICLE V

PETITIONS

Upon written petition personally signed by ten (10) percent of the enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Durham presented to the Chairman or Vice-Chairman a meeting of the Republican electors shall be called. The petition must state the purpose of the call of the meeting.

ARTICLE VI

DISPUTES

Any disputes regarding qualifications or election of members or officers of the Town Committee, procedures or rules of the Durham Republican Party, including endorsements which cannot be settled locally, shall be resolved by the State Central Committee, or by a subcommittee of five (5) of its members, appointed by the Chairman of the State Central Committee, none of whom shall be members of the district in which the Town of Durham belongs.

ARTICLE VII

AMENDMENTS

These rules may be amended at a caucus of the enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Durham called in accordance with Article IV Section 2(b). The amended rules shall not become effective until sixty (60) days after the filing of the same with the Secretary of the State.

ARTICLE VIII

DEFINITIONS

The terms used in these rules shall have the same meaning as in Section 9-372 of the General Statutes.

Adopted at Durham, Connecticut, January 22, 1976 by a Caucus of the enrolled Republican electors of the Town of Durham.

Filed with the Secretary of the State, February 5, 1976.
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