

STONINGTON REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

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BY – LAWS AS OF May 15, 2003

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STONINGTON REPUBLICAN TOWN COMMITTEE

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 goals of the Town Committee are to seek out, designate and secure the election of qualified Republican candidates for Federal, State and Town offices.
- c) The Town Committee is open to all interested Republicans and offers equal opportunities of participation without regard to race, color, age, creed, sex or national origin.
- d) Membership on the Town Committee carries with it a responsibility for attendance at all meetings. Any member unable to attend shall notify the Committee Chairperson or appropriate district leader.
- e) The Republican Selectmen, Treasurer, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Probate Judge, and Registrar in Stonington shall be members of the Town Committee with all rights, but not representing any specific district.
- f) All regular meetings of the Town Committee shall be open to any Republican Elector or to anyone else at the invitation of any member and subject to the approval of the Chairperson.
- g) Town Committee members shall abide by Town, State and National Republican party Rules, not to supersede Connecticut General Statutes.
- h) A two-fifths (40%) 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 within the Party 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
- j) The Town Committee shall appoint the Steering Committee that shall set policy between meetings and shall have such other functions as are authorized by the Town Committee. The Steering Committee shall be composed of the district leaders or their designees from each voting district and the Town Committee Officers. The Steering Committee may invite elected officials and/or members of Commissions and Authorities to attend its meeting from time to time. Such invited guests shall have no vote at any meeting unless he or she is also a member of the Steering 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 prior to the caucus is eligible for membership.

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ARTICLE IV - ELECTION OF MEMBERS

Section I

- a) The number of seats on the Town Committee shall be determined both according to district and Party enrollment. Each district shall be entitled to at least four (4) representatives. Each district shall also be entitled to an additional Town Committee member for every one hundred (100) enrolled party members in excess of three hundred (300) in that district. The entitlement to numbers of Town Committee members hereunder shall be made each two (2) years just prior to the district caucuses for endorsement of Town Committee members and shall be based on the last completed district lists of enrolled Republicans.
- 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 district caucuses called for the purpose of endorsing district 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. When the caucus has been called to order, the Chairperson will designate areas for the districts to meet for choosing that district's nominated candidates. At this time, the Chairperson will adjourn the caucus.
 3. The districts will, by ballot, elect their allotted candidates and their district leaders.
 4. After the districts have selected their candidates, the caucus will be reconvened. 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 in each district are entitled to vote at the caucus for that district. The date for the district caucuses 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.
- e) Should a primary be called, the challenger must create a slate to challenge the slate from that district. The Town Committee shall see that notice of the primary

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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, 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 his 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.
- h) Vacancies in town committee membership shall be filled by the district where the vacancy occurs. 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 ample 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, reasonable notice of the time, place and purpose of such meeting to all Members of the Committee.

ARTICLE V - DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section I

- a) Chairperson:
 - 1. Attend Senatorial District meetings.

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2. Attend Congressional District meetings.
3. Attend and conduct Town Committee meetings.
4. 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.

b) Vice-Chairperson:

1. Attend Senatorial district meetings.
2. Attend Congressional District meetings.
3. Attend Town Committee meetings.
4. 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.

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 coherent attendance records of the Town Committee meetings and report the totals to the Town Committee bi-annually as well as indicating absences in the minutes of each Town Committee meeting.
4. Furnish to the State Chairperson at least every six (6) months, minutes of the meetings held during the previous six (6) months.
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

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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 each 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. Finance Committee
3. Campaign Committee
4. Publicity and Public Affairs

The Chairperson of the Town Committee shall name the Chairperson of each such Standing Committee and shall require a report as to the doings of each committee from each chairperson at the regularly held Town Committee meetings.

ARTICLE VI – BY-LAW CHANGES

Amendments may be made to any/or either of these By-Laws by 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.

