

**Greenwich Democratic Town Committee**

**Bylaws**

**PREAMBLE**

The enrolled Democratic voters of the Town of Greenwich (“Town”) are the Greenwich Democratic Party (“Party”). The policies and principles of the Party shall be formed, directed, and executed by the Democratic Town Committee (the “Town Committee”). The Town Committee shall have full control of the Party’s interests in all primaries, caucuses, and general and special elections in the Town of Greenwich, and it shall do all in its power to legitimately advance the interests of the Party.

**ARTICLE I – MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 1.** The Town Committee shall consist of one-hundred (100) members (the “Total Town Committee Number”) who are enrolled in the Democratic Party in the Town. No person shall be elected to or shall hold the position of Town Committee member unless his or her name appears on the last completed enrollment list of the Party, provided that a clerical error in the compilation of such list shall not bar election to or holding of such position.

**Section 2.** Members shall be elected by Representative Town Meeting voting districts (“Districts”). Each District shall have a number of membership slots determined as follows, based upon the information available from the Town Clerk regarding registered voters as of November 15 of each odd-numbered year:

1. For each District divide (i) the total number of registered Democrats in the District by (ii) the total number of registered Democrats in the Town.
2. Multiply the quotient determined in paragraph 1 by the Total Town Committee Number.
3. Each District shall receive membership slots equal to the integer part of the product determined in paragraph 2 (but not fewer than two (2) membership slots). A “membership slot” means the right to elect one member.
4. To the extent that paragraph 3 above results in fewer membership slots than the Total Town Committee Number, the Districts whose products determined in paragraph 2 were greater than two (2) and that have the highest fractional part shall receive one additional membership slot, until the total number of membership slots equals the Total Town Committee

Number.

5. To the extent that paragraph 3 above results in more membership slots than the Total Town Committee Number, the Districts (excluding Districts that have only two membership slots) whose products determined in paragraph 2 have the lowest fractional part shall receive one fewer membership slot, until the total number of membership slots equals the Total Town Committee Number.

**Section 3.** The Party-endorsed candidates for membership in the Town Committee shall be selected from their Districts as set forth in Article VIII hereof. Full participation by all Democrats with particular concern for gender equality, minority groups, and other historically underrepresented groups (such as youth) is encouraged.

**Section 4.** In each even-numbered year, the first Tuesday of March (or such other date as may be provided by state law) (the “Primary Date”) shall be fixed for the holding of a primary for the election of Town Committee members. A candidacy for election as a member of the Town Committee from any District may be filed by or on behalf of any person listed in the last completed enrollment list of the Democratic Party within such District, within the time and in the form prescribed by applicable law. In the vote in a primary for the election of Town Committee members from a District, only persons on the enrollment list of the Democratic Party in such District shall be eligible to vote.

**Section 5.** Party-endorsed candidates for Town Committee membership chosen as provided in Article VIII hereof shall run in the primary for Town Committee members as Party-endorsed candidates; provided that such candidates from a District shall be deemed elected as members of the Town Committee if no valid opposing candidacy has been filed for Town Committee members for such District by four o’clock P.M. on the thirty-fourth (34th) day preceding the Primary Date.

**Section 6.** The terms of Town Committee members shall start on the day following the Primary Date and end on the Primary Date for the election of the members of the succeeding Town Committee. The provisions of this section shall apply notwithstanding the lack of cause for a primary to elect said members. A Town Committee member shall no longer be a member of the Town Committee immediately upon ceasing to be a legal resident of the Town or a registered Democrat. A Town Committee member shall not lose his or her position because of changing residence from one District to another within the Town

**Section 7.** Vacancies in the Town Committee from any cause shall be filled as follows:

- (a) A vacancy on the Town Committee shall be filled by a registered Democrat residing in the District in which the vacancy exists.
- (b) Such member will be chosen by a majority vote of all members of the Town Committee elected from such District if there are at least three such members. In

such event, if prior to the second regular Town Committee meeting following the creation of the vacancy, a majority of the members from such a District do not elect a person to fill the vacancy, such vacancy may be filled by Town Committee at any regular meeting.

- (c) If there are not at least three (3) members in the District having the vacancy, the vacancy may be filled by a vote of the Town Committee at any regular meeting.

**Section 8.** The Town Committee may also elect, from time to time, associate members. Associate members must be legal residents of the Town and, except for legal minors, must be enrolled Democrats. A member of the Town Committee who is not reelected as a member shall automatically become an associate member at the time his or her membership terminates, unless s/he requests not to be named an associate member, is no longer a registered Democrat, or is no longer a resident of the Town. Associate members shall receive notification and minutes of Town Committee meetings, may participate in discussions or debate in such meetings (although not make or second motions or vote), may become officers of the Town Committee, and may serve and vote on any of its committees or subcommittees. An associate member may be removed at any time by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Town Committee. An associate member shall be affiliated with the District in which the associate member currently resides, but shall not be entitled to vote for District Leader pursuant to Article IV hereof.

**Section 9.** Each member acknowledges that by undertaking membership in the Town Committee, s/he accepts a commitment for reasonable support of the campaigns of the endorsed candidates, consistent with his or her circumstances and abilities.

## **ARTICLE II – OFFICERS**

**Section 1.** The Town Chair in office on the Primary Date shall, not more than thirty (30) days following the Primary Date, call an organizational meeting of the newly elected Town Committee for the purpose of electing officers, with such meeting to be held not more than forty (40) days after the Primary Date. If such Town Chair fails, for any reason, to timely call such meeting by thirty (30) days after the Primary Date, the Vice-Chair in office on the Primary Date shall within two (2) days call the meeting, which shall be held not more than ten (10) days after it is called. If the Vice-Chair does not call such meeting by the thirty-second (32<sup>nd</sup>) day after the Primary Date, the State Central Committee members in the district shall within the next two (2) days call the meeting, which shall be held not more than ten (10) days after it is called. Notice of the organizational meeting, regardless of whether called by the Town Chair, the Vice-Chair, or State Central Committee members, shall be provided in accordance with Article III, Section 1 or 2, as

appropriate.

**Section 2.** The Town Committee shall have four officers: the Town Chair, the Vice-Chair, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

**Section 3.** Officers of the Town Committee shall be elected by the Town Committee from its members and associate members, except that the Treasurer, who shall be a member or associate member, shall be appointed by the Town Chair as required by state law. No person who is not a member or associate member of the Town Committee shall be an officer of the Town Committee except that an officer who is not reelected as a member of the Town Committee shall retain his or her office until a successor to that office is elected. Any ties in the election of officers shall be desolved as provided in Article VIII, Section 1(c).

**Section 4.** Officers other than the Treasurer shall hold office for the term of the Town Committee electing them and thereafter until their successors are elected, unless they resign, die, are no longer a member or associate member, or are removed pursuant to Section 8 of this Article. The Treasurer shall hold office until s/he resigns or a Town Chair designates someone else as Treasurer.

**Section 5.** Each of the officers shall have the duties set forth in these Bylaws and the Greenwich Democratic Town Committee Operating Rules (“Operating Rules”) and, unless denied them by either of those two sources, the duties usually incident to the office as well as such other duties as the Town Committee may assign or are imposed by law.

**Section 6.** No person shall hold more than one Town Committee office simultaneously.

**Section 7.** Within one week after organization of the Town Committee, the Secretary shall file with the Secretary of the Democratic State Central Committee a list of the names and addresses of the officers and members of the Town Committee.

**Section 8.** The Town Committee may, with or without cause, remove from office any officer other than the Treasurer on a two-thirds (2/3) vote of those present and voting at a regularly scheduled or special meeting, provided that notice of such meeting indicating that removal of such officer would be considered at that meeting was provided in accordance with Article III, Section 1 or Section 2, as appropriate.

**Section 9.** If there shall be a vacancy in any elected office of the Town Committee arising from any cause, the Town Committee shall fill the vacancy by a majority

vote of the Town Committee members present and voting (a) at the earliest regularly scheduled meeting after the vacancy arises for which notice can be provided in accordance with Article III, Section 1 or at such other date as decided upon at that meeting or (b) at an earlier special meeting called for that purpose with notice provided in accordance with Article III, Section 2. Notice of such regularly scheduled or special meeting shall indicate that such vacancy will be filled at the meeting.

**Section 10.** The Town Chair may at any time appoint a Deputy Secretary or Deputy Treasurer, who will assist the Secretary or Treasurer, respectively, in the discharge of his or her duties. If there is a vacancy in the position of Secretary or Treasurer, then pending the filling of that vacancy pursuant to Section 9 of this Article, the Deputy Secretary or Deputy Treasurer shall assume the powers and duties of such position. The Town Chair may at any time remove a Deputy Secretary or Deputy Treasurer.

## ARTICLE III – MEETINGS

**Section 1.** The Town Committee shall hold regular meetings at least six (6) times a year at the call of the Town Chair. Regular meetings shall be held not later than seventy-five (75) days from the preceding meeting. On or about December 15 of each year, a calendar with the dates of regular meetings for the following calendar year shall be furnished by email to Town Committee members and associate members by or at the direction of the Town Chair; provided, however, that the District Leaders Committee may reschedule any such meeting upon at least seven (7) days' email notice to Town Committee members and associate members. The Secretary should give email notice of the time and place, which should include the agenda, for any regular meeting at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date, provided, however, that failure to provide such notice shall not invalidate any meeting held on a date specified pursuant to the third sentence of this section.

**Section 2.** A special meeting of the Town Committee may be called by the Town Chair and shall be called by the Town Chair on the written request of twenty percent (20%) of the members of the Town Committee or upon petition of five percent (5%) of the enrolled Democrats in the Town, which request or petition shall state the object of such meeting. The call of the meeting shall state the reason for a meeting called at the instance of the Chair or that specified in the written request or petition. No other business shall be brought before the meeting except that stated in the call of the meeting. In the event the Town Chair neglects or refuses to call a meeting to be held within fourteen (14) days following such request or petition, any one of the members

of the Town Committee requesting such meeting or any one of the enrolled Democrats in the Town so petitioning may call such meeting by providing notice to each member and associate member of the Town Committee of the time and place of such meeting and the purpose thereof. Notice of any special meeting shall be given by email at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date; failure to provide such notice shall invalidate the meeting. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an exception will be made to the requirement of the five (5) days' notice in the case of a meeting called to replace a Party-endorsed candidate for nomination or a candidate for election who shall have died, withdrawn, or become disqualified prior to twenty-four (24) hours before opening of the polls for a primary or election. In such cases, if time does not permit five (5) days' notice, the requirement is waived.

**Section 3.** No Town Committee member shall vote by proxy at any meeting of the Town Committee or at any meeting of the committees or subcommittees of the Town Committee, except as specifically permitted herein.

**Section 4.** At the request of one-third (1/3) of the members present and voting at a meeting, a record vote (written or by roll call) shall be taken on any matter. A record vote, moreover, shall be taken whenever the number of candidates nominated for any office or delegate position to which two or more candidates may be endorsed exceeds the number of candidates who can be endorsed for that office.

**Section 5.** Except as otherwise provided herein or in the governing parliamentary authority specified in Article XIV, a majority vote of the members present and voting at any meeting shall be decisive of any question. In the event of a conflict between these Bylaws and such governing parliamentary authority, these Bylaws shall govern.

**Section 6.** Two-fifths (2/5) of the membership of the Town Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

**Section 7.** Town Committee meetings shall be open to the public, except that on a vote by a majority of those present and voting portions of such meetings may be held in executive session if confidentiality is required. A motion to enter executive session may specify who, if anyone, in addition to members may be present during the executive session; in the absence of such specification that determination may be made by the chair of the meeting, subject to being overruled by a majority of members present and voting on the issue. Meetings of committees of the Town Committee need not be open to the public.

## **ARTICLE IV – DISTRICT LEADERS**

**Section 1.** The Town Committee members from each District shall elect, by plurality vote, in even-numbered years from among their members a District Leader. In the event of a tie vote, such vote shall be dissolved in the manner provided in Article VIII, Section 1(c). In the event of a vacancy in a District Leader position, the Town Committee members from the particular District shall elect a replacement using the procedures set forth in this Section. The members from a District may at any time replace the District Leader upon a vote of the majority of all such members.

## **ARTICLE V – COMMITTEES**

**Section 1.** The Town Committee shall have the following standing committees, absent a vote by the Town Committee to dissolve or temporarily deactivate any of these standing committees or to create additional standing committees: Planning, District Leader/Nominating, Rules, Data, Finance, Policy, Communications, Candidate Search/Recruiting, Fundraising, Outreach and Membership, and Elections. The scope of each committee’s work shall be as prescribed in these Bylaws and the Operating Rules, provided that the Town Committee may expand or narrow the scope of a committee’s work with or without amending these Bylaws or the Operating Rules.

**Section 2.** Each standing committee will be formed with not fewer than three (3) members. Except for the Planning Committee and the District Leaders Committee, whose memberships are prescribed by these Bylaws, committee members shall be appointed by the Town Chair, provided that the District Leaders Committee may vote at any time to add or remove a member. The chair of each committee other than the Planning Committee and the District Leaders Committee shall be selected by the Town Chair, provided that the District Leaders Committee may substitute a different chair at any time.

**Section 3.** Special committees may be created by the Town Chair, the Town Committee, or the Planning Committee. The chair and members of a special committee shall be appointed by the person or committee that creates it, provided however that the Town Committee may at any time change the chair or members of such a committee.

**Section 4.** A subcommittee of any standing or special committee may be created by the Town Chair, the Town Committee, the Planning Committee, or the chair of such standing or special committee. The members and chair of any subcommittee shall be appointed by the person or body that creates it. The Town Committee may at any time dissolve a subcommittee or change its chair or members.

**Section 5.** Committees may meet in person or through telephonic or video connections. Committee votes may also be taken through email, texting, or other written means, including the combining of any of those methods of participation. For purposes of determining whether a quorum exists, all persons who participate through any such means shall be counted.



**Section 6.** Twenty-five (25%) percent (or such other percentage as the Town Committee may set) of any committee or subcommittee (other than the Planning Committee, the District Leader Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Rules Committee) shall constitute a quorum. With respect to the Planning Committee and the District Leader Committee, the Finance Committee, and the Rules Committee (or any successor committees or subcommittees holding substantially similar functions) a majority shall constitute a quorum. In the absence of a quorum, a committee or subcommittee may meet and perform work, but it may not take a vote that purports to be a vote of the committee or subcommittee.

## **ARTICLE VI – PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** The Planning Committee shall comprise the officers of the Town Committee, any Deputy Treasurer or Deputy Secretary, and the chairs of each standing committee. The Town Chair shall chair the Planning Committee. A chair of a standing committee may designate another member of such committee to represent such chair at a Planning Committee meeting, and that designated person may vote at said meeting if the Town Chair or Secretary is notified of such designation by the committee chair prior to or during such meeting.

**Section 2.** The Planning Committee shall be responsible for developing the annual plan and budget for the Town Committee, which annual plan and budget shall be subject to ratification by the Town Committee, and overseeing the achievement of the objectives set forth in such plan.

**Section 3.** Meetings of the Planning Committee shall be called by either the Town Chair or by four (4) or more members of the committee.

## **ARTICLE VII – DISTRICT LEADERS COMMITTEE**

**Section 1.** The District Leaders Committee shall comprise the District Leaders, the officers of the Town Committee, the Democratic Select-persons of the Town, and any Democratic State Central Committee persons who are residents of the Town. The Town Chair shall chair the District Leaders Committee, subject to the provision of the last sentence of Article V, Section 2. A District Leader may designate another member of the Town Committee from his or her District to represent said District Leader at a District Leaders Committee meeting, and that designated person may vote at said meeting if the Town Chair or Secretary is notified of such designation by the District Leader prior to or during such meeting.

**Section 2.** The District Leaders Committee shall be the Nominating Committee of the Town Committee, except as otherwise indicated.

**Section 3.** The District Leaders Committee shall have the power to act for the Town Committee on policy matters when action is required between regularly scheduled



Town Committee meetings.

**Section 4.** Meetings of the District Leaders Committee shall be called by either the Town Chair or by four (4) or more members of the committee. A report of significant actions taken at meetings of the District Leaders Committee shall be made at the following Town Committee meeting, unless there exists good cause to keep the information confidential.

**ARTICLE VIII- ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES, TOWN COMMITTEE MEMBERS, AND DELEGATES**

**Section 1. Party Endorsement, Tie Votes, Replacement of Candidates, and Certification.**

**Section 1(a).** The Town Committee, at meetings called for such purpose, may select from among eligible registered Democratic nominees proposed at such meeting, the Party-endorsed candidates for municipal offices (which pursuant to the definition in state law includes all offices for which only voters in the Town may vote, even if state offices) and for delegates to conventions. When selecting an individual candidate for a municipal office, the person receiving the majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting shall be the Party-endorsed candidate. When selecting two (2) or more candidates for any municipal office or as delegates to conventions, the nominees, in number equal to the number of candidates or delegates to be selected, who receive the greatest number of votes shall be the Party-endorsed candidates or delegates, provided all such candidates receive no fewer than a majority of the votes of the Town Committee members present and voting. In endorsing candidates for a municipal office for which not all Town Committee members are entitled to vote, and in nominating delegates for a convention that will nominate a candidate for an office for which not all Town Committee members are entitled to vote, only those members of the Town Committee who are entitled to vote for candidates for such office shall be entitled to vote in the Town Committee’s vote.

**Section 1(b).** In each vote taken pursuant to this Article, each member may in each round of voting cast up to as many votes as there are slots to be filled. The procedure for reaching a majority vote and dissolving ties shall be as prescribed in Sections 1(c) and 1(d) of this Article, provided however that the Town Committee, before or during the process of voting, may, by majority vote of those present and voting, alter such rules for the purpose of such vote.

**Section 1(c).** For a position for which only one candidate will be endorsed:

- (i) If there are only two candidates, and if the first ballot results in a tie,

then a second ballot shall be taken. If this ballot also results in a tie, a third ballot shall be taken. If the tie persists, such tie shall be dissolved by lot by the Town Chair in the presence of not fewer than three disinterested persons, after notifying the candidates. If the Town Chair is not present or is one of the tied candidates, then the Vice Chair (or the Secretary, if the Vice Chair is not present or is a candidate) shall dissolve the tie. If the Town Chair, Vice Chair and the Secretary are not present and/or are among the tied candidates, the Town Committee shall elect a member of the District Leader Committee to dissolve the tie.

- (ii) If there are more than two candidates and no candidate receives a majority on the first ballot, a second ballot will be taken. If no candidate receives a majority in the second ballot, the candidate with the lowest vote total in the second round of voting shall be eliminated from consideration. All persons tied for having the lowest vote total shall be so eliminated, unless that would leave fewer than two candidates, in which case a third ballot shall be taken without eliminating any candidates. This process of eliminating candidates and conducting an additional round of voting shall be repeated until a candidate achieves a majority vote or (a) there is a tie between the only candidates receiving votes, in which case the procedure for dissolving a tie by lot set forth in Section 1(c)(i) of this Article shall govern or (b) eliminating a candidate is impossible because it would leave fewer than two candidates, in which case one of the lowest-scoring candidates will be eliminated by lot pursuant to the procedure set forth in Section 1(c)(i) and additional rounds of voting shall continue among the remaining candidates pursuant to this subsection.

**Section 1(d).** When endorsing two or more persons for a municipal office or as delegates to a convention:

- (i) If the number of persons who receive a majority vote on the first ballot is greater than the number of slots to be filled and there is a tie for the final slot(s), there shall be a second ballot in which the only candidates are the persons so tied. The persons receiving the highest vote total on the second ballot, up to the number of slots remaining to be filled, shall be deemed selected, except that if there is a tie for the final slots the process shall be repeated for additional rounds until all slots are filled or until no candidates can be eliminated for a next ballot, in which case the procedure for dissolving a tie by lot set forth in Section 1(c)(i) of this

Article shall govern.

- (ii) If the number of persons who receive a majority vote on the first ballot is less than the number of slots to be filled, then (x) those who do receive such a majority shall be deemed selected, and (y) a second round of voting shall be held in which all remaining candidates who do not withdraw their names from consideration will be eligible. If the number of candidates receiving a majority vote in the second round is:

- (a) equal to the number of open slots, such candidates shall be Party-endorsed candidates or delegates, and the election shall be over;

- (b) greater than the number of open slots, then the candidates receiving the greatest number of votes shall be party-endorsed candidates or delegates, with any tie being resolved pursuant to the procedure set forth in Section 1(d)(i) of this Article;

- (c) fewer than the number of open slots, then such candidates shall be party-endorsed candidates or delegates, and voting shall continue to another round in which candidates shall be eliminated from the ballot as provided in the following sentence. After any candidates have voluntarily withdrawn, the candidates with the lowest vote totals shall be eliminated until the remaining candidates are equal to twice the number of open slots. If candidates are tied with the highest vote total to be eliminated, all such candidates shall be eliminated unless doing so would reduce the number of candidates to less than one-hundred-and-fifty percent (150%) of the number of open slots, in which case no such tied candidates shall be eliminated.

After a third round of voting pursuant to this subparagraph 1(d)(ii)(c) above, the procedure set forth above in this subparagraph shall be repeated as often as is necessary to fill all open slots, except that in applying this subparagraph 1(d)(ii)(c) at least the candidate(s) with the lowest score of those who have not withdrawn shall be eliminated in each round, unless eliminating all such candidates would reduce the number of candidates to fewer than one more than the number of open slots, in which case no such tied candidates shall be eliminated. Following any round of voting during which no candidate is elected and following which no

candidate may be eliminated pursuant to this subparagraph, the procedure for dissolving a tie by lot set forth in Section 1(d)(i) of this Article shall govern.

**Section 1(e).** In implementing sections 1(c) and 1(d) of this Article, a candidate who withdraws or is eliminated in any round may not reenter the election absent a vote permitting such reentry by two-thirds (2/3) of those present and voting.

**Section 1(f).** The Secretary shall timely certify to the Town Clerk the names and street addresses of the Party-endorsed candidates or delegates selected as provided above, the title of the office or position as a Town Committee member or delegate for which each person is endorsed, the date upon which any primary is to be held, and any other information required by law. In the case of the endorsement of a person for an office or for a position as Town Committee member for whom only the electors of a political subdivision of the Town may vote, the Secretary shall certify to the Town Clerk the name or number of such political subdivision.

**Section 1(g).** If a Party-endorsed candidate for nomination to a municipal office or for election to the Town Committee, or delegate to a convention, dies prior to twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the polls at the primary or withdraws his/her name from nomination prior to ten (10) days before the day of the primary, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office or position for which s/he is a candidate, an endorsement shall be made to fill such vacancy by the Town Committee by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose, using the procedures set forth above. If in the opinion of the Town Chair it is necessary to fill such vacancy before it will be practical to convene a meeting of the Town Committee, the vacancy shall be filled by the District Leaders Committee. If the original endorsement was made only by the members of the Town Committee resident in certain political subdivisions of the Town, only such residents shall participate in the vote to fill such vacancy in a vote by the Town Committee or the District Leaders Committee.

## **Section 2. Nominations to Municipal Office.**

**Section 2(a).** Candidates for municipal office chosen as provided in Section 1 of this Article shall run in the primary for such office as Party-endorsed candidates; provided any such candidates shall be the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office for which s/he is a candidate if no valid opposing candidacy has been timely filed as provided by applicable law.

**Section 2(b).** Candidacies for nomination by the Democratic Party to a municipal office may be filed by or on behalf of any person whose name appears on the last-completed

enrollment list of such Party within the Town or, if applicable, the political subdivisions of the Town eligible to vote for such office.

**Section 2(c).** If a nomination has been made for a municipal office and the nominee thereafter but prior to twenty-four (24) hours before the polls open on the day of the election for which such nomination has been made, dies, withdraws his/her name, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office for which s/he has been nominated, a nomination to fill such vacancy may be made in accordance with the procedure set forth in Section 1(g) of this Article.

**Section 3. Election of Town Committee Members.**

**Section 3(a).** In even-numbered years a caucus of the enrolled Democrats shall be held by each District for the purpose of endorsing candidates for membership on the Town Committee from that District. The date of the caucus shall be no earlier than the fifty-sixth (56<sup>th</sup>) day nor later than the forty-ninth (49<sup>th</sup>) day preceding the day fixed for the primary for Town Committee members. Any enrolled Democrat may be a candidate for endorsement in the District in which such Democrat resides. Candidates may be nominated at the caucus, self-nominations are permitted, and nominations need not be seconded. Alternatively, eligible persons may become candidates by filing a petition with the Registrar of Voters in compliance with state and Party rules, or in the case of incumbent members of the Town Committee, a signed statement of candidacy.

**Section 3(b).** The Town Committee shall publish a notice of the caucus to be held by each District specifying the date, hour, place, and purpose of each caucus, in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town at least five (5) days but not more than fifteen (15) days prior to the date of the caucus. There shall be no quorum requirement for any such caucus. Those persons in number equal to the number of candidates to be selected who receive the greatest number of votes cast by secret ballot at the caucus shall be the Party-endorsed candidates. In the event of a tie for the final available slot(s), there shall be one or more additional ballots to break such tie. If the tie cannot be broken by ballot, it shall be dissolved by lot by the caucus chair (or someone else chosen by the caucus if the chair is one of the tied candidates) in the presence of at least three disinterested observers.

**Section 3(c).** Prior to the election of Party-endorsed candidates for the Town Committee, the Town Chair shall cause to be printed and circulated at the caucus and the Town Committee meeting preceding the caucus the attendance records of the incumbents: the number of regular Town Committee meetings that the incumbent actually attended during the existing two (2) year term. The Town Chair may also disseminate to any or all caucuses additional information regarding the work for the Town Committee performed by any Town Committee member or associate member.

**Section 3(d).** The caucuses provided for by Section 3(a) of this Article shall be

chaired by the District Leader of the District in question, or such other enrolled Democrat from such District as the District Leader shall designate, provided that by majority vote of those present and voting at the caucus any person present and eligible to vote at such caucus may be selected as chair. A secretary shall be elected at each caucus from among those present and eligible to vote at such caucus. A list of the persons endorsed at each caucus shall be filed by chair or secretary of each caucus with the Town Clerk not later than 4:00 p.m. on the forty-eighth (48<sup>th</sup>) day preceding the day fixed for the primary or such other day as may be required by law.

**Section 3(e).** Any provision of these Bylaws notwithstanding, no primary shall be held for the election of members of the Town Committee from a District unless candidacies for such election numbering at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the number of Town Committee members to be elected in the District are filed in conformity with applicable law by persons other than Party-endorsed candidates.

#### **Section 4. Selection of Delegates.**

**Section 4(a).** In the case of candidates for election as delegates to any convention, any Town Committee member entitled to vote for the election of such delegates may propose for selection by the Town Committee one or more nominees whose names appear on the last-completed enrollment list of the Democratic Party who reside within the political subdivisions of the Town that are entitled to vote for candidates selected by such convention. From among such nominees the Town Committee shall select, as provided in Section 1 of this Article, a slate composed of a number of persons equal to the number of delegates to which the Town is entitled under the state rules of the Democratic Party.

**Section 4(b).** Each person nominated for selection by the Town Committee as a delegate to a convention that will select Party-endorsed candidates for a major office on the federal, state, or district levels, shall, upon request, make public, before selection of such delegate by the Town Committee, the candidates preferred by such delegate for each such major office, or that such delegate has no preference at the time if that is the case.

**Section 4(c).** The slate of candidates for delegates to a convention chosen as provided in Section 1 of this Article shall run in the primary for delegates to such convention as the party-endorsed slate; provided such slate of candidates shall be deemed elected as the delegates to such convention if no valid opposing candidacy by a complete slate of persons other than Party-endorsed candidates is timely filed as provided in the State election law.

**Section 4(d).** Candidacies for election by the Democratic Party as delegates to a convention may be filed by or on behalf of a slate of persons each of whose name appears on the last completed enrollment list of such Party within the political subdivisions of the Town of Greenwich that are entitled to vote for candidates selected by such convention by filing with the Registrar a petition signed by at least five

percent (5%) of the electors whose names appear on the last completed enrollment list of such Party in the aforesaid subdivisions.

**Section 4(e).** Each delegate to a convention elected in conformity with the law and with these Bylaws may in writing designate an alternate delegate or a proxy to act for the delegate if absent. In the event of the delegate's failure to act, the chair of the delegation (or the Town Chair if no chair of the delegation has been elected) may designate such alternate delegate or such proxy.

**Section 5. Nominations from the Floor.** Except as otherwise provided herein or in applicable law, in any election held in accordance with these Bylaws, nominations may be made from the floor.

## **ARTICLE IX– SPECIAL CAUCUSES**

**Section 1.** Special caucuses in the Town or in any Town District may be called for any lawful purpose, but not the removal of Town Committee members, on the petition of not less than five percent (5%) of the enrolled Democrats in the Town or District. The petition shall include the time and purpose of the caucus. In the case of a Town caucus the Town Chair, and in the case of a District caucus the District Leader, shall give notice of the time, place, and purpose of the caucus to all enrolled Democrats at least five (5) days in advance of such caucus by publishing such notice at least once in a newspaper having general circulation in the Town.

**Section 2.** Five percent (5%) of the enrolled Democrats in the Town or District shall constitute a quorum at a special caucus.

## **ARTICLE X – FINANCING OF PRIMARY CANDIDATES**

No money or other thing of value in the Town Committee Treasury or in any other fund subject to the control of the Town Committee shall be used in a Party primary.

## **ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS**

**Section 1.** These Bylaws may be amended by a majority of the Town Committee present and voting at a regularly scheduled or special meeting provided that notice of the proposed changes (which may be by email) and the wording of such changes have been submitted to all Town Committee members in writing at least fourteen (14) days prior to the vote.

**Section 2.** These Bylaws may also be amended by a caucus of enrolled Democrats which shall forthwith be called by the Town Chair upon the filing of a petition with



the Registrar signed by at least five percent (5%) of the enrolled Democrats in the Town. Five percent (5%) of the enrolled Democrats in the Town shall constitute a quorum at such a caucus.

## **ARTICLE XII– DEFINITIONS**

Terms used in these Bylaws shall have the same meaning as in Chapter 153 of Title 9 of the General Statutes of Connecticut unless otherwise provided herein or otherwise demanded by context.

## **ARTICLE XIII – FILING OF BYLAWS**

**Section 1.** Within seven (7) days after any amendments to these Bylaws are adopted by the Town Committee, the Secretary shall file a copy of the same with the Secretary of the State, the Town Clerk, and the Secretary of the State Central Committee. Such filings shall be made in the form prescribed by the Secretary of State, the Town Clerk and/or the State Central Committee, to the extent applicable.

**Section 2.** If any provision of these Bylaws is found to be in conflict with the provisions of the law or Connecticut Democratic State Party Rules, the provisions of the law or such Rules shall govern.

## **ARTICLE XIV – MISCELLANEOUS**

**Section 1. Operating Rules.** The Town Committee has adopted, and may from time to time amend, Operating Rules. It is intended that the Operating Rules shall be used as a guideline in interpreting these Bylaws and be binding, except as the context shall suggest otherwise, provided, however, that if there is any inconsistency between the Operating Rules and these Bylaws, these Bylaws shall govern except to the extent that they explicitly permit themselves to be modified by the Operating Rules.

**Section 2. Parliamentary Authority.** Robert’s Rules, Newly Revised, Twelfth Edition shall be conclusive on parliamentary issues except where they conflict with these Bylaws. A Parliamentarian may be appointed by the Town Chair for any and all Town Committee meetings.

RATIFIED: February 21, 2024

