



## SPOTLIGHT ON BECOMING A CANDIDATE FOR OFFICE IN WESTON

July 2021

The League of Women Voters of Weston advocates for full participation in our democracy. We recommend that all residents vote in elections; and for those who wish to be more involved and perhaps serve in our government, we encourage them to run for office.

This is offered as a brief guide for any person who considers becoming a candidate for office in Weston for the first time. There is information on beginning the process, as well as links to online sources with detailed information on the more complex issues of being a candidate.

### **Elected Positions in Weston**

Weston is led by a three-member Board of Selectmen, headed by the First Selectman. The Town website describes the position as follows:

"The First Selectman serves as the Chief Executive and Chief Administrative Officer of the Town. Along with presiding over Board of Selectmen meetings, the First Selectman serves as an ex-officio member of all Town Boards, Commissions and Committees. It is the responsibility of the First Selectman to supervise the administration of the town and to "execute and carry out ordinances, resolutions, policies and other actions approved by the Board of Selectmen or the Town Meeting". This can consist of overseeing programs, activities, and budgets in regard to their short-term and long-term effects on the town. In addition, the First Selectman acts as a link between Weston and State, regional, and federal agencies."

(<https://www.westonct.gov/government/municipal-departments/first-selectman>)

These are the other positions on Town Boards and Commissions that are also filled by election:

- Board of Finance
- Board of Education
- Board of Police Commissioners
- Board of Assessment Appeals
- Planning & Zoning Commission
- Zoning Board of Appeals
- Registrar of Voters

### **Initial Contacts for Candidates**

Any Weston resident who is interested in running for office in town, should begin by contacting the political party with which (s)he is affiliated.

**The Democratic Town Committee** Chair is Ms. Ilene Richardson [ilenerichardson@mac.com](mailto:ilenerichardson@mac.com)  
Website -- <http://weston-democrats.org> <https://ctdems.org/dtc/weston>  
Facebook page -- <https://www.facebook.com/WestonCTDems>  
Meetings at Town Hall - second Wednesday of the month 7:30pm

**The Republican Town Committee** Chair is Matt Carrothers [carrothers1@gmail.com](mailto:carrothers1@gmail.com)  
Website -- <https://www.westonrtc.org>  
Facebook page -- <https://www.facebook.com/WestonRepublicanTownCommittee>  
Meetings at Town Hall - second Tuesday of the month 8pm

If a person is interested in running as an “Unaffiliated” candidate (without endorsement by either the Democratic or Republican party), then the Town Clerk's office would be the primary contact.

**The Weston Town Clerk** has an official role in the election process including primaries and local referenda. The Weston Town Clerk's Office is located at Town Hall at 56 Norfield Road. Town Clerk is Donna Anastasia (203) 222-2616  
Assistant Town Clerk is Shawn Amato (203) 222-2617  
Website -- <https://www.westonct.gov/government/municipal-departments/town-clerk>  
The mailing address is: Town of Weston  
PO Box 1007  
Weston, CT 06883

### **Statewide Rules and Guidelines for Municipal (Town) Candidates**

The State of Connecticut sets the rules for candidates in all the towns and cities across the state.

This is the Statewide Calendar for the 2021 Election:

- **July 20-27** Party endorsements. Endorsement by major party for municipal office by town committee, caucus or convention between these days.
- **July 20-27** Primary petitions available. Petition forms for persons desiring to oppose party-endorsed candidates for municipal office must be made available from the registrar of voters.
- **July 28** Certification of endorsements. Last day for certification by a major political party to municipal clerk of party endorsement for municipal office.
- **August 4** First day that write-in candidates for any office being contested at election, may register as write-in candidates with Secretary of State.
- **August 4** Nominating petitions. Last day for filing with town clerk.
- **August 11** Primary Petitions - Filing. Primary petitions for opposition candidates of a major party for municipal offices must be submitted to respective registrars.
- **September 14** Primary

This Connecticut State website provides links to these important sources of detailed information and instruction for candidates: <https://portal.ct.gov/seec>

- **2021 A Guide for Municipal Candidates**
- **2021 Municipal Elections Campaign Overview**
- **Municipal Candidate Training**

Susan W. Urbania