

# RULES OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE TOWN OF NEW FAIRFIELD

## PREAMBLE

1. All public meetings of the Democratic Party of New Fairfield shall be open to all members of the Democratic Party regardless of race, color, creed, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, national origin, economic status, philosophical persuasion, or physical disability (hereinafter collectively referred to as "status").
2. No test for membership in, nor any oaths of loyalty to, the Democratic Party in this town shall be required or used which has the effect of requiring prospective or current members of the Democratic Party to acquiesce in, condone or support discrimination based on "status".
3. The time and place for all public meetings of the Democratic Party in the Town of New Fairfield shall be publicized fully and in such manner as to assure timely notice to all interested persons. Such meetings must be held in places accessible to all Party members and large enough to accommodate all interested persons.
4. The Democratic Party of the Town of New Fairfield shall support the broadest possible registration to its party without discrimination based on "status".

## PARTICIPATION

Any person who is an enrolled Democratic elector may participate in any and all party meetings, caucuses and conventions and may be elected to any party office except where specifically prohibited by law.

## TOWN COMMITTEE

### Section 1. Membership

The New Fairfield Democratic Town Committee (NFDTC) shall consist of twenty (20) members elected at large. Each voting district shall be represented by at least three members on the NFDTC.

#### Section 1a. Alternate Members

The NFDTC shall have up to twenty (20) alternate members. Each alternate member shall have all the rights and privileges of a regular Town Committee member, except for the right to vote at Town Committee meetings, except when a quorum is not present or

if a regular member is absent. In these cases, the regular members present may vote to allow the alternate member(s) a full seat for that particular meeting.

#### Section 1b. Emeritus Members

Individuals who have served the NFDTC, the New Fairfield community or the local Democratic Party with distinction may be elected Emeritus Members of the NFDTC by the NFDTC at any duly constituted meeting upon the nomination and recommendation of any full Member or Alternate Member. Emeritus members may attend meetings of the NFDTC, but shall neither have voting privileges nor be counted in a quorum.

### Section 2. Change in Membership

The NFDTC, at a meeting called for at least that purpose, may change its membership by majority vote of those present and voting. A change in membership constitutes a rule change and must be accomplished in the same manner as any other rule change. (See Section 38, 39, and 40 for a description of the procedures for a rule change.) When a change in membership results in the addition of new members to the NFDTC, the new members shall be duly elected at caucus and shall begin their terms after the first Monday following the next primary date. (See Section 22 for date of primary.)

### Section 3. Terms of Members

Members of the NFDTC shall hold office commencing on the Wednesday after the first Tuesday in March in each even-numbered year and ending on the first Tuesday in March of the next even-numbered year.

In the event that no primary is held, the candidates endorsed (see Sections 19, 21, 22, and 23) shall be considered duly elected.

### Section 4. Vacancy

Any vacancy on the NFDTC arising from any cause, including failure to elect, may be filled by the Town Committee by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting at a meeting called for at least that reason.

### Section 5. Dues

The payment of dues shall not be a requirement for the endorsement or election of a candidate to the NFDTC, any existing Member or local party position. The NFDTC may suggest that Members and Alternate Members contribute an amount as determined by the full NFDTC on an annual basis to help promote the Democratic Party and offset regular operating expenses.

## Section 6. Qualifications/Duties

No person shall be elected to or shall hold the position of NFDTC member unless his or her name appears on the last completed enrollment list of the New Fairfield Democrats or unless other proof of enrollment is available.

Members are expected to endorse and promote candidates for office. Members are expected to attend NFDTC meetings and to contribute time and necessary support to Town Committee sponsored activities.

## Section 7. Filing List of Officers and Members

Within one (1) week after organization of the NFDTC, 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, and a copy of the Town Committee's Local Rules.

## Section 8. Vacancy in Town Committee Office

If there shall be a vacancy in any office of the NFDTC, the Town Committee may fill the office by a majority vote of those present and voting, at a meeting called for at least that purpose.

# OFFICERS

## Section 9. Election and Call of Organizational Meeting

Not more than thirty (30) days following the day fixed for the holding of a primary for the election of Town Committee members, the Chairperson of the Town Committee in office on the day of said primary shall call a meeting of the newly elected Town Committee for the purpose of organization and electing a Chairperson, Vice-chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer. The Chairperson shall name such other officers and committees as deemed necessary or advisable.

## Section 10. Qualifications

The Chairperson and all other officers of the NFDTC shall be elected from within the membership of the Committee.

## Section 11. Term

Officers shall hold office for the term of the Town Committee electing them, and until their successors have been elected.

## Section 12. Duties

### Section 12.1. Duties of the Chairperson

The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the NFDTC, preside as temporary chairperson of all caucuses, have the authority to call special meetings and to make and publish statements and legal notices in the name of the NFDTC in addition to such duties as may be prescribed by State Statute and State Party Rules, ascribed by these Rules.

The Chairperson, in consultation with the Executive Subcommittee, shall establish an agenda for each meeting and arrange for the agenda to accompany notice of the meeting.

The Chairperson may appoint an attorney to act as legal counsel to the NFDTC and may make any other appointments that the Chairperson deems necessary, upon approval of the Executive Subcommittee. Other appointments may be made upon approval of the NFDTC, including but not limited to, consultant services for campaign purposes, financial consultant for fundraising purposes and other consultant or advisory services as deemed necessary and practicable.

The Chairperson shall be an ex officio member of all standing subcommittees.

An agenda for each regularly scheduled meeting shall be presented to Town Committee members prior to each meeting.

The Chairperson shall be an authorized signer on all NFDTC bank accounts and shall have access to the appropriate SEEC financial filing portals.

The Chairperson is authorized to make or recommend expenditures of no more than one hundred dollars (\$100) without prior NFDTC vote. Such expenditures will be reported at the next scheduled NFDTC meeting.

In the event that a vote is taken that shall result in a tie, such tie vote shall be dissolved by the vote of the Chairperson of the NFDTC, but this provision shall not affect the Chairperson's right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee.

### Section 12.2. Duties of the Vice-Chairperson

In the absence of the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson shall preside at meetings and perform such activities and duties incident to the office of the Chairperson.

The Vice-Chairperson may serve in other capacities as determined by the Chairperson or by vote of the NFDTC.

### Section 12.3. Duties of the Secretary

The Secretary, or his/her delegate, shall record and maintain minutes of each meeting and distribute the minutes to the membership as well as other documents that pertain to the operations of the NFDTC prior to the following regularly scheduled meeting of the full NFDTC.

The Secretary shall advise the Chairperson of the status of a quorum and shall certify elections and endorsements as provided by these Rules and State Statutes.

The Secretary shall serve as temporary secretary of all caucuses.

### Section 12.4. Duties of the Treasurer

The Treasurer (and Deputy Treasurer, when applicable) shall have the sole authority to deposit funds and make expenditures on behalf of the NFDTC, as per Connecticut General Statutes § 9-607(a), (d), (e), (g)(2)(O), and (j) or any subsequent Supervisory Guidance issued by the CT SEEC.

The Treasurer and the operation of the Treasury of the NFDTC shall adhere to all laws, regulations and Supervisory Guidance of the CT-SEEC.

a) The Treasurer shall prepare and maintain records showing all receipts and expenditures and shall provide a financial accounting at each regularly scheduled NFDTC meeting and an annual financial report following the close of each fiscal year.

b) The Treasurer shall be cognizant of and abide by CT-SEEC laws and Supervisory Guidance pertaining to Campaign Finance Law.

c) The Treasurer shall maintain a bank account in the name of the NFDTC and shall turn over to his/her successor all such records and funds on hand at the end of the term of office.

d) The Treasurer shall cooperate with the performance of any annual review of the NFDTC's financial accounts and records by one or more persons who have knowledge of bookkeeping and accounting standards, but who are not members of the NFDTC, and who are appointed by the Chairperson, with the approval of the NFDTC as deemed necessary and practicable.

e) The Treasurer shall serve ex-officio as chair of the NFDTC Finance Subcommittee and as an ex-officio member of the NFDTC events subcommittee.

### Section 12.5. Duties of the Deputy Treasurer

The Committee may elect a Deputy Treasurer whose shall assist the Treasurer and perform all the duties of the Treasurer in the Treasurer's absence.

The Deputy Treasurer shall be an authorized signer on all NFDTC bank accounts and shall have access to the appropriate SEEC financial filing portals.

The Deputy Treasurer shall serve ex-officio as a member of the Finance Subcommittee.

## SUBCOMMITTEES

### Section 13. Subcommittee Meetings

Meetings of standing subcommittees shall be held as necessary to conduct operations of the NFDTC.

Other than the ex officio members, members of the standing subcommittees shall be appointed by the body at regularly scheduled meetings. Standing subcommittees may recruit additional members beyond the NFDTC, based on needed expertise.

Each subcommittee shall submit its financial requests to the Finance Subcommittee, and each subcommittee chair shall report to the NFDTC on all subcommittee plans and recommended actions.

### Section 14. Standing and Ad Hoc Subcommittees

The standing subcommittees of the NFDTC shall be Executive, Nominating/Campaign, Communications, Finance, Events, and Policy. Ad hoc subcommittees may be established or terminated by NFDTC vote.

#### Section 14.1. The Executive Subcommittee (ES)

The Executive Subcommittee (ES) of the NFDTC shall develop an annual plan of operations for the NFDTC, including the impact of fundraising and expenditures for the NFDTC; review ongoing operations and financial responsibilities of the NFDTC; coordinate activities of the subcommittees and discuss subcommittees' recommendations; prepare agendas with support information for NFDTC meetings; bring forward recommendations for discussion and action by the full NFDTC membership, and execute such other duties as may be charged to it by the NFDTC.

The membership of the ES shall be the four officers of the NFDTC. The Chairperson of the NFDTC shall serve as chair of the ES.

The ES shall undertake an annual review of the NFDTC financial records, as reported by the Treasurer or Deputy-Treasurer and shall report all ES interim actions at the next NFDTC meeting.

## Section 14.2. The Nominating/Campaign Subcommittee (NCS)

The Nominating/Campaign Subcommittee (NCS) shall be responsible for recruiting registered New Fairfield Democrats to be nominees to serve on the NFDTC. Further, the NCS shall have the responsibility to identify, encourage, and recruit persons interested in being candidates for elective or appointive municipal office. The NCS shall enlist the assistance of incumbent officeholders, all NFDTC members, and Democratic voters to recruit candidates. The NCS shall meet with potential candidates including enrolled Democrats and interested unaffiliated registered voters. The NCS shall meet with incumbents as well to confer on their interest in being candidates for re-election. The NCS shall select among these interested parties and recommend to the NFDTC the candidates for nomination for election or to fill vacancies in town offices, boards, and commissions. The NCS shall also conduct this process, in consultation with the DTCs of the districts shared with other towns, to select candidates for state and federal offices. The NCS shall be responsible for planning, communicating and implementing campaign strategy and coordinating NFDTC related activities during municipal, statewide, and federal elections, for providing necessary information on SEEC Campaign Finance Guidelines and NFDTC financial procedures to candidates and the NFDTC, and for recommending budgeting and fundraising guidance for candidates to the Finance Committee and the full NFDTC.

The Vice-Chairperson of the NFDTC shall serve as ex-officio chair of the Nominating/Campaign Subcommittee.

The NCS shall arrange for the opening, staffing and managing of a campaign headquarters, if approved by the NFDTC.

Following each election, the NCS shall conduct a post-election analysis and report its findings to the NFDTC within three months.

A candidate for office to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance or Board of Education shall not serve as Campaign Subcommittee chair.

The NCS shall consist of at least two NFDTC officers, one of which shall be the Nominating/Campaign Subcommittee chair or his/her designee. In addition, the NCS shall enlist Democratic incumbent(s) in the various elected and appointed offices in which a vacancy exists or is expected to exist to assist with its activities. The NFDTC Vice-Chairperson or the Vice-Chairperson's designee shall act as chair of the NCS.

The NCS shall give timely notice to all members of the NFDTC of the existence of any vacancy in a town office, on a board or commission or in a state office, and after due deliberation shall present to the NFDTC full Membership the name of each nominee for ratification and subsequent recommendation to the First Selectman of the Town.

The NCS shall meet no less than semi-annually, prior to the scheduled NFDTC meetings to review all relevant vacancies and nominations and to prepare its report so as to present nominations within the required timelines.

#### Section 14.3. The Communications Subcommittee

The Communications Subcommittee shall establish and maintain effective working relationships with the media and manage the preparation and release of official NFDTC publicity, collaborate with all NFDTC subcommittees and candidates, and maintain the NFDTC website and other social media accounts, developing and posting informational materials, and providing a forum for the exchange of ideas.

#### Section 14.4. The Finance Subcommittee (FS)

The Finance Subcommittee (FS) shall be responsible for overseeing the financial operations of the NFDTC, raising monies needed to meet ongoing NFDTC expenses, to meet goals established for campaign contributions and for presenting a proposed annual budget at the start of each fiscal year. All fundraising activities shall follow the SEEC Guidelines for Party Committees.

The fiscal year of the NFDTC shall be the calendar year.

The FS shall be comprised of the Treasurer, the Deputy-Treasurer and the Chairperson.

The Treasurer of the NFDTC shall serve as ex-officio Chairperson of the Finance Subcommittee.

#### Section 14.5. The Policy Subcommittee

The Policy Subcommittee is charged with review of the Rules of the New Fairfield Democratic Party to ensure compliance with Democratic State Party Rules and State statutes and to reflect current practice, to propose necessary or desirable revisions, and to provide access for all NFDTC members to the current Rules of the New Fairfield Democratic Party.

#### Section 14.6. The Events Subcommittee (EvS)

The Events Subcommittee (EvS) shall be responsible for the planning and execution of the annual fundraising event(s) for the NFDTC.

The EvS shall coordinate with the Finance Subcommittee to determine the budget of the Annual Fundraising Event(s) for the NFDTC.

The Treasurer is an ex-officio member of the EvS.



# MEETINGS

## Section 15. Minimum Meetings

The NFDTC shall meet at least six (6) times every calendar year. Meetings shall be called by the Chairperson.

Members and Alternate Members who do not attend three consecutive meetings could be requested to resign from the NFDTC.

In accordance with the Charter of the Democratic National Committee, all meetings of the NFDTC, subcommittees, and all other committees of the New Fairfield Democratic Party shall be open to the public, and votes shall not be taken by secret ballot.

Proxy voting shall not be allowed at any Town Committee meeting or for the endorsement of candidates or delegates.

## Section 16. Special Meetings

Special meetings of the NFDTC may be called by the Chairperson at any time. Special meetings may also be called upon written request, signed by twenty (20) percent of the members of the Committee, presented to the Chairperson. Upon receipt of such request, the Chairperson shall instruct the Secretary to give reasonable notice of the time, place and purpose for such meeting to all members of the Town Committee.

## Section 17. Quorum

Two-fifths of the membership of the Town Committee shall constitute a quorum at any meeting.

## Section 18. Robert's Rules Governing

*Robert's Rules of Order* (newly revised) shall be construed as applicable, controlling and conclusive on all parliamentary issues, except as herein otherwise provided.

# ENDORSEMENT OF CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICE, TOWN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP, AND DELEGATES TO CONVENTIONS

## Section 19. Selection of Party-endorsed Candidates

The enrolled members of the Democratic Party of the Town of New Fairfield, at a caucus call for the purpose shall, by a majority vote of such enrolled members present and voting, select party-endorsed candidates for each municipal office, for Town Committee membership and for delegates to conventions. The time and place of holding all such caucuses shall be determined by the Town Committee. Notice of the time, place and purpose of any such caucus shall be given to all enrolled Democratic voters of the Town of New Fairfield at least five (5) days in advance of the caucus by publication of the information in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of New Fairfield. The Chairperson of the Town Committee shall be the temporary Chairperson of all such caucuses and shall preside until the meeting has selected its permanent Chairperson. In like manner, the Secretary of the Town Committee shall act as Secretary at all such caucuses until the meeting has selected its permanent Secretary. The caucus shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of Section 9-396 of the Connecticut General Statutes as the section may be amended from time to time.

Specifically, in the endorsement of Town Committee members, candidates for municipal office and for delegates to conventions, a majority vote of those present and voting at the caucus shall be sufficient for endorsement. A count may be taken from raised hands or standing bodies. However, if the Chairperson of the caucus receives a written motion from any New Fairfield Democrat, requesting a vote by ballot, the Chairperson must ask how many caucus participants are in favor of vote by ballot. If fifteen (15) electors vote in favor of a vote by ballot, then the vote shall be by ballot. The Chairperson shall select two caucus participants to collect a written statement calling for vote by ballot from each of fifteen (15) persons who had so voted. A "ballot teller" shall be selected from among the fifteen persons who signed the written statements.

Under no circumstances shall a member of the caucus vote for a greater number of candidates than those to be elected.

No person shall vote or participate in any New Fairfield Democratic Party caucus unless enrolled on the last completed enrollment list of New Fairfield Democrats or unless proof of enrollment is offered.

## Section 20. Party-endorsed Candidates for Municipal Office

Candidates for municipal office chosen as provided in Section 19 above shall run in the primary for such office as party-endorsed candidates and such candidate shall be the nominee of the New Fairfield Democratic Party for the office for which s/he is a candidate if no valid opposing candidacy has been filed for nomination to such office by 4 p.m. on the twenty-first day preceding the day of the Democratic primary for such office.

## Section 21. Endorsement of New Fairfield Democratic Town Committee Members

In accordance with Connecticut General Statutes (9-390 & 9-391), endorsement of Democratic Town Committee Members shall be made not earlier than the forty-second (42nd) nor later than the fortieth (40th) day preceding the date of the primary, and the caucus shall be held in accordance with the stipulations of Section 19 above.

At the caucus duly called for the endorsement of members of the NFDTC, nominations for committee members may be made by (1) presentation to the caucus of a full slate of recommended members equal to or less than the number of Town Committee members prescribed by the Rules of the Democratic Party of the Town of New Fairfield (Section 1) and (2) by nomination of the individual candidates. Voting by slate is only permissible when the election is between two or more full slates.

## Section 22. Primary for Election of Town Committee Members

The date of the primary for the election of the Town Committee members will be the first Tuesday of March in the even-numbered years, and a notice shall be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the Town of New Fairfield at least fifty-six (56) days before the primary is held. (Connecticut General Statutes 9-423 & 9-425)

## Section 23. Party-endorsed Candidates for Town Committee Members

Candidates for NFDTC membership chosen as provided in section 19. above shall run in the primary for such office as party-endorsed candidates; any such candidates shall be deemed elected as members of the NFDTC if no valid opposing candidacies have been filed for Town Committee members by 4 p.m. on the twenty-first day preceding the day of the Democratic Primary for Town Committee members.

## Section 24. Endorsement of Candidates for Delegates to Conventions

At any caucus called for the endorsement of candidates for delegates to any convention, nominations for said delegates may be made by (1) presentation to the caucus of a slate composed of a number of persons not exceeding the number of such

delegates to which the town is entitled under the state rules of the Democratic Party and (2) by nomination of individual candidates. In the endorsement of such candidates, the vote of each member of the caucus present and voting shall be for a number of candidates not to exceed the number of a full slate a defined above.

### Section 25. Party-endorsed Candidates for Convention Delegates

The slate of candidates for delegates to a convention selected as provided in Sections 19 and 24 above shall run in the primary for delegates to such convention as the party- endorsed slate; 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 the party-endorsed candidates has been filed by 4 p.m. on the twenty-first day preceding the day of the Democratic Primary for delegates to conventions.

### Section 26. Convention Alternates

Each delegate to a convention elected in conformity with law and with these rules may in writing designate an alternate delegate to act for him or her in the event of absence. In the absence of such alternate delegate the town Chairperson shall fill any vacancy arising for any cause in delegations to conventions.

### Section 27. Unit Rule

The unit rule shall not be permitted at any convention.

### Section 28. Insufficient Endorsements

If for any reason sufficient endorsements of candidates (for municipal office, Town Committee membership or delegates to conventions) are not made, the provisions of Connecticut General Statutes 9-418, 9-419 and 9-420, as the same may be amended from time to time, shall govern.

### Section 29. Certification of Party-endorsed Candidates

The Secretary and the Chairperson of the NFDTC shall certify to the Town Clerk the names and street addresses of the party-endorsed candidates selected as described above, the title of the office or position as committee member or delegate for which each person is endorsed, and the date upon which the Primary is to be held.

### Section 30. Date of Party Endorsement of Candidates

Each party endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidates for municipal office or for election of Town Committee members or delegates

to conventions shall be made not earlier than the forty-second (42nd) day nor later than the fortieth (40th) day preceding the day of the primary, and shall be certified to the Town Clerk of the Town of New Fairfield by the Chairperson and the Secretary of the NFDTC or caucus, as the case may be, not later than the thirty-ninth (39th) day preceding the day of the primary.

### Section 31. Caucus Tie Vote

In the event that a vote taken on the selection of a party-endorsed candidate results in a tie, such tie vote shall be dissolved by the vote of the permanent Chairperson of the caucus, but this provision shall not affect the person's right to cast any vote as a member of the caucus to which the Chairperson is otherwise entitled.

### Section 32. Vacancies in Party-endorsed Candidacy

If a party-endorsed candidate for nomination to a municipal office or for election as a Town Committee member or delegate to a convention, prior to twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the polls at the Primary, expires, or prior to ten days before the day of the Primary, withdraws his or her name from nomination, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office or position for which s/he is a candidate, an endorsement may be made to fill such vacancy by the NFDTC members present and voting, at a meeting called for at least that purpose. The Secretary of the Town Committee shall immediately certify the endorsement to fill such vacancy to the Town Clerk. No candidate shall be deemed to have withdrawn until a notarized letter of withdrawal is filed with the Town Clerk and a copy filed with the Chairperson of the Town Committee.

## NOMINATIONS: MUNICIPAL OFFICE, ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND CONVENTION DELEGATES

### Section 33. Plurality Vote Determination of Nomination

The nominations of the Democratic Party to all offices and the election of members of the Town Committee and delegates to convention shall be made in all respects as provided in State Primary Law, as the same may be amended from time to time. Whenever a primary for nomination to a municipal office or for election of Town Committee members or delegates to conventions is to be held under the provisions of said law, the nominee of the Democratic Party for such office, and the members of the Town Committee and the delegates to conventions shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast.

## Section 34. Vacancy Nomination

If a nomination has been made for a municipal office and the nominee thereafter but prior to twenty-four (24) hours before the opening of the polls on the day of the election for which such nomination has been made, expires, withdraws his or her name, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office for which he or she has been nominated, a nomination to fill such vacancy may be made by the Town Committee, by a majority vote of the Town Committee members present and voting, at a meeting called for at least that purpose. The Secretary of the Town Committee shall immediately certify the nomination to fill such vacancy to the Secretary of the State of Connecticut. In the case of withdrawal, nomination shall not be valid until the candidate who has withdrawn files a letter of withdrawal signed by such candidate with the Secretary of State and also has filed copies with the Town Clerk and with the Chairperson of the Town Committee. Such certification of a nomination to fill a vacancy due to death or disqualification shall include a statement setting forth the reason for such vacancy.

## Section 35. Definitions

As used in these rules, "municipal office" means any elective office of the Town of New Fairfield and the offices of justice of the peace, state representative in an assembly district composed of a single town or part of a single town, state senator in a senatorial district composed of a single town or part of a single town, the judge of probate in a probate district composed of a single town. The other terms used in these rules shall have the same meanings as in the State Primary Law, as that may be amended from time to time.

## Section 36. Special Caucuses

Special caucuses may be called for any lawful purpose by a majority of the Town Committee or by not less than ten (10) percent of the registered Democratic voters in the Town of New Fairfield. The call for any such special caucus shall be in writing and signed by each of the persons issuing the call. Notice of the time, place and purpose of the special caucus shall be given to all registered Democratic voters in the Town, at least five (5) days in advance of the special caucus, by publication in a newspaper having a general circulation in New Fairfield.

# CONFLICT WITH LAW

## Section 37. Conflict with Law

If any provision of these rules is found to be in conflict with the provisions of any law, the provisions of such law shall govern.

## AMENDMENTS TO LOCAL PARTY RULES

### Section 38. Methods for Amending Local Party Rules

Local Party Rules may be amended by one of the following two methods:

1. By a caucus of the enrolled Democratic electors of the Town of New Fairfield called in the same manner as a caucus for selecting party-endorsed candidates as provided in section 19 above; or
2. By NFDTC members at a meeting called for at least that purpose. Whenever this second method is chosen, party rules shall be adopted to conform with the provisions of Section 9-375 (providing for petition as explained below) of the Connecticut General Statutes.

### Section 39. Caucus for Adoption of Rules and/or Amendments

Should the NFDTC fail to adopt and file (see section 40) local party rules or amendments, the Chairperson of the Town Committee (or in the event of the Chairperson's failure to act, the Vice-Chairperson) shall call a caucus within twenty (20) days, upon the filing with the New Fairfield Democratic Registrar of Voters of a petition signed by at least five (5) percent, but not more than five hundred, of its enrolled party members, to take action upon such petition.

In the event the enrolled Democratic electors or the NFDTC members shall fail to adopt a method for amending the local party rules as provided by Section 9-375 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the method of amending the local party rules shall be the same as the method used to select party-endorsed candidates (caucus as described in Section 19 above) until such time as a method of amendment is lawfully adopted and filed by the proper authority.

### Section 40. Filing of Local Party Rules

Within seven (7) days after party rules or any amendments to party rules are adopted by the New Fairfield Democratic Party, a copy of the rules shall be filed with the Secretary of the State, with the Town Clerk, and with the Secretary of the State Central Committee. Any amendments so filed shall set forth in full the section to be amended. Matter to be omitted or repealed shall be surrounded by brackets, and new matter shall be indicated by underscoring.

New Fairfield Democratic Town Committee 12/1982 amended 2005,2018 and 2024