

**Conflict of Interest
and Recall Process
Ordinance**

Adopted 2013, revised & adopted 2016

CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND RECALL PROCESS ORDINANCE

10.1 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

10.1.1 In accordance with Title 30-A M.R.S.A. Section 2605, any municipal officer or official of the Town, elected or appointed, who himself or herself or any family member, close friend or business associate, has any financial interest, direct or indirect, or by reason of ownership of stock in any corporation, in any contract with the Town, or in the sale of any land, material, supplies, or services to the Town or who is a contactor supplying the Town with services or material shall make known the interest and shall refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in his or her capacity as an officer or employee in making such sale or the making or performing of such contract.

10.1.2 Any municipal officer or official of the Town who willfully conceals such financial interest or willfully violates the requirements of this section shall be guilty of malfeasance in office or position and shall forfeit such office or position immediately upon a determination of malfeasance by the Select Board as hereinafter provided under Section 10.2.2.

10.1.3 Any violation of this section, with the knowledge, expressed or implied, of the person or corporation contracting with or making a sale to the Town, shall render the contract or sale voidable by the Select Board.

10.2 FORFEITURE OF OFFICE

10.2.1 A municipal officer or official, elected or appointed, shall forfeit his or her office or be subject to a recall or forfeiture proceedings as hereinafter provided if such person:

- a. lacks, at any time during his or her tenure of office, any eligibility or other qualifications for the office prescribed by this ordinance or by law;
- b. intentionally violates any expressed prohibition of this ordinance;
- c. fails to fulfill the requirements of his or her office, including, but not necessarily limited to, failure to attend 3 or more consecutive regular meetings without being excused beforehand or actively participate in the functioning of the board or committee;
- d. is indicted or convicted of a felony or is indicted or convicted of any other offense which prevents him or her from fulfilling his or her obligation as a municipal officer or official;
- e. is banned by a court of law from attending meetings or carrying out their duties of office as prescribed herein.

10.2.2 Upon any allegation of charges of conflict of interest or violation of the provisions set forth under Section 10.1, the Select Board shall hold a hearing to determine if there is any malfeasance or violation of the provisions set forth under Section 10.1. Forfeiture and immediate removal of office shall require a majority vote of the Select Board. In the event that the Select Board fail to take any action or do not vote to remove the person from office, the Registered Voters of the Town may initiate recall proceedings in accordance with the provisions set forth under Section 10.3.

10.3 RECALL OF ELECTED OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS – REMOVAL FROM OFFICE

10.3.1 Any elected officer or official of the Town may be recalled and removed from elective office by the Registered Voters of the Town as hereinafter provided. Recall may be used when an elected official has violated any of the conflict of interest or forfeiture of office provisions set forth under Sections 10.1 and 10.2.

10.3.2 Any twenty-five (25) Registered Voters of the Town may make and file with the Town Clerk an affidavit containing the name of the officer or official whose removal is sought and a general statement of the reasons why such removal is desired because of any violations of the provisions set forth under Sections 10.1 and 10.2.

a. The Town Clerk shall prepare and sign a petition for such removal, a copy of said affidavit and general statement either included thereon or attached thereto, which shall be impressed with the official Town Clerk's seal, dated, and addressed to the Select Board containing the name of the officer or official whose removal is sought.

b. The petition shall be signed only by registered voters of the Town . Every signature shall include the address of the registered voter, indicating the street and number or other description sufficient to identify such address, such as tax map and lot number.

10.3.3 The recall petition, to be effective, must be signed by a number of Registered Voters of the Town equal to at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the votes cast at the previous gubernatorial election.

10.3.4 At the expiration of the said thirty (30) days, the Town Clerk shall declare the petition closed and shall certify the petition as sufficient or insufficient within five (5) business days thereafter.

10.3.5 If the recall petition is determined to be insufficient, the filing official shall notify the person or organization sponsoring the recall of the insufficiency of the petition. It is not necessary to give notification unless the person or organization sponsoring the recall files with the filing official a written notice of sponsorship and a mailing address.

10.3.6 If the petition is sufficient, it and the certificate shall be submitted to the Select Board at their next regular meeting. The Select Board shall forthwith give written notice to said official of the receipt of said petition and certificate.

10.3.7 If the official sought to be removed does not resign within five (5) days of receiving such notice, the Select Board shall within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the Town Clerk's certificate order an election to be held within thirty (30) calendar days. The Select Board shall schedule a public hearing, upon public notice as provided for Town Meetings, to be held within seven (7) calendar days prior to the date of said election. At said hearing, which shall be presided over by a moderator, the petitioners and the officer or official whose recall is sought shall be provided opportunity to present reasons for or against recall.

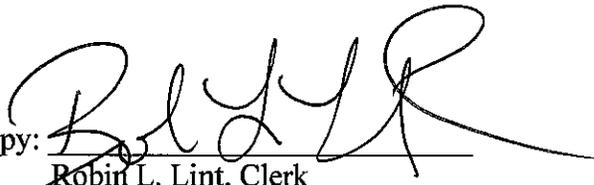
10.3.8 The official shall continue to perform the duties of the office until the results of the recall election are certified. If not recalled, the official shall continue in office for the remainder of the unexpired term, subject to subsequent recall only as provided in Section 10.3.9. If recalled by the voters, the official shall be deemed removed upon the certification of the voting results and may not seek election to any municipal office for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of such recall.

10.3.9 No recall petition shall be filed against an official within six (6) months after such official takes office, nor during the last six (6) months of the term of office, nor in the case of an official subjected to a recall vote and not removed thereby, until at least twelve (12) months after such vote.

10.4 HOLDING OTHER OFFICE

Neither the Select Board members, Town Clerk, nor Assessors' Agent shall hold appointed positions in the Town with the exception of members of the Fire Department, unless the law or ordinance creating the appointed office requires or allows it. During Budget Committee deliberations, if any member of the Budget Committee is also a member of another board or committee or Fire Department, such member shall make such fact known and refrain from any discussion or voting on matters relating to the Fire Department or such other board or committee unless allowed to do so by a majority vote of the Budget Committee.

Attested True Copy:


Robin L. Lint, Clerk