

GRANBY DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE BY-LAWS

<August 4, 1983>

ARTICLE I - TOWN COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Town Committee shall consist of not less than fifteen and not more than thirty members who shall be elected at large.

Section 2: The terms of the Town Committee members shall start on the first Monday following the caucus or primary at which they are elected, and they shall serve for two years, or until their successors shall have been chosen (but not more than twenty-six months). The terms of all members shall end on the same day. Members may succeed themselves.

Section 3: Any vacancy on the Town Committee, arising from any cause, may be filled by the Town Committee, by a majority of those present and voting, at a meeting called for that purpose.

Section 4: The members of the Town Committee shall be endorsed and elected in the manner provided for in Article VII and Article VIII of these By-Laws.

Section 5: The Town Committee, by two-thirds vote of those present and voting, may expel a member for good cause. "Good cause" shall be construed as failure to attend three consecutive meetings without an acceptable excuse, or failure to perform duties assumed to the member by a vote of the Committee. Activities on behalf of certain candidates for party nomination shall not be construed as sufficient cause to remove a member from the committee.

ARTICLE II - OFFICERS

Section 1: Within one week after election, the members-elect of the Town Committee shall meet to organize and shall elect a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and such other officers as may be deemed advisable. Said organizational meeting shall be called by the incumbent Chairperson of the Town Committee and, in the event such meeting is not timely called, the State Central Committeeperson of the particular district shall forthwith duly call such meeting.

Section 2: The officers of the Town Committee shall be members of the Committee.

Section 3: Officers so elected shall hold office for the term of the Town Committee electing them and until their successors shall have been elected.

Section 4: Each officer shall have the duties set forth below, and in position shall have those duties usually incident to the office and such other duties as the Town Committee may from time to time prescribe:

a) Chairperson -

- shall preside at all meetings of the membership and all meetings of the Executive Committee;
- shall cause to be called regular and special meetings of the Town Committee;
- shall appoint and discharge, subject to the approval of the Town Committee, members of the various committees of the Town Committee;
- shall sign and execute all contracts in the name of the Town Committee; shall cause all books, reports, statements, and certificates to be properly accepted and filed as required by law or rule of the State or National Democratic Party;
- shall have general and active supervision over the property and affairs of the Town Committee and shall enforce these by-laws.

b) Vice-Chairperson -

- shall possess the powers and may perform the duties of the Chairperson during his absence or disability.

c) Secretary -

- shall keep the minutes of the meetings of the membership and of the executive committee;
- shall attend to the giving of notice of meetings of the Town Committee at the direction of the Chairperson in accordance with these By-laws;
- shall maintain and have custody of the records, documents, and papers of the Town Committee not pertinent to the performance of the duties vested in other officers, in which shall be available for inspection at reasonable times by any neighbor of the Town Committee by other person by law entitled to inspect the same; and
- shall attend to all correspondence and present all officers communications received to the Town Committee.

d) Treasurer -

- shall have the care and custody of, and be responsible for, all the funds of the Town Committee;
- shall obtain such bank or savings accounts in the name of the Town Committee as the Executive Committee shall direct and shall deposit such funds therein;
- shall have the general supervision of the collection and disbursement of funds of the Town Committee, shall make and endorse all checks, drafts, notes, and other orders for the payment of money, and payout and dispose of such in accordance with the direction of the Chairperson, the Executive Committee, or the Town Committee, as herein provided;
- shall keep full and accurate records of all monies received and paid on account of the Town Committee;
- shall render a report of the financial condition of the Town Committee at each meeting thereof;
- shall, if required by the Executive Committee, give such bond as it shall determine appropriate for the faithful performance of the duties of this office.

Section 5: Any officer may be removed either with or without cause by a vote of the majority of the Town Committee.

Section 6: Within one week after the 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, and the name and address of the Democratic Registrar of Voters.

Section 7: If there shall be a vacancy in any office of the Town Committee, arising from any cause, the Town Committee may fill the same by a majority vote of those present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose.

ARTICLE III - MEETINGS

Section 1: The Town Committee shall meet at least eight times per year.

Section 2: Special meetings of the Town Committee may be called by the Chairperson when, at his/her discretion, it is deemed advisable. Special meetings shall be called by the Chairperson upon request of the membership. This request must be signed by not less than twenty percent of the membership and the meeting shall be held no sooner than seven days nor later than thirty days after such a request is presented.

Section 3: The Chairperson shall instruct the Secretary to give at least five days notice of time, place and purpose of every meeting to the members of the Town Committee

ARTICLE IV - PROCEDURE

Section 1: Motions shall be carried by a simple majority of those present and voting, provided a quorum is present. Each member shall have one vote.

Section 2: Two fifths of the membership of the Town Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Section 3: Robert's "Rules of Order" (newly revised) shall be applicable, controlling, and conclusive on all parliamentary issues, except as herein otherwise provided.

ARTICLE V - AMENDMENT

Section 1: These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Town Committee present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose in accordance with Article III. Any change or amendments made by the Democratic Town Committee shall be in force only until the next caucus, at which caucus they must be submitted for ratification or rejection.

ARTICLE VI - COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Chairperson shall, subject to the approval of the Town Committee establish committees, appoint members to committees, fill vacancies therein, and discharge members from committees. Approval by the Town Committee shall be by simple motion in accordance with these By-laws.

Section 2: Within one month after their election as provided for in Article II, Section 1 the Town Committee officers shall, by majority vote of those officers present at a meeting called by the Chairperson for that purpose, appoint a chairperson and other members to each of the following committees,

- Fund Raising
- Nominating
- Election Campaign
- Voter Development

and other such committees as may be necessary.

Section 3: The officers of the Town Committee and the Chairperson of the Standing Committees, as provided for in Section 2 above, constitute an Executive Committee and shall meet regularly to coordinate activities. The Standing Committees shall have no powers independent of the Town Committee.

Section 4: The Town Committee Chairperson shall have the authority, on behalf of the Town Committee, to authorize expenditures of up to fifty dollars, provided, however, that such expenditures be limited to fund-raising activities or voter development purposes. All such expenditures shall be reported to the Town Committee at its next regular meeting and shall not exceed Fifty Dollars during any one reporting period.

Section 5: A majority of the members of any committee may fix its rules of procedure. Any action by any committee shall be reported to the Town Committee at the meeting next succeeding such action, and shall be subject to revision, alteration, and/or approval by the Town Committee; provided that no rights or acts of third parties shall be affected by any such revision or alteration.

ARTICLE VII - NOMINATING PROCEDURE

Section 1: The enrolled members of the Democratic Party in the municipality, shall, at a caucus called for the purpose and by a majority vote of such enrolled members present and voting, select party-endorsed candidates for each municipal office, for Town Committee members and for delegates to conventions. The time and place of holding all such caucuses shall be determined by the Town Committee; and the Chairperson shall instruct the Secretary to give notice of the time, place, and purpose of any such caucus to all enrolled Democratic voters of the municipality at least five days in advance of the caucus by publication of the same in a newspaper having a general circulation in the municipality. The time of any such caucus shall be fixed so as to be in compliance with the Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time. The Chairperson of the Town Committee shall be the temporary chairperson of all such caucuses and shall reside until the caucus has elected its permanent chairperson. In like manner the Secretary of the Town Committee shall act as secretary at all such caucuses until the caucus has selected its permanent secretary. The caucus shall be conducted in conformity with the provisions of Section 9-396 of the said Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as it may be amended from time to time.

Section 2: The Party endorsement of candidates for delegates to any convention shall be by full 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, and such slate shall be endorsed as a unit.

Section 3: Candidates for municipal office chosen as provided in Section 1 shall run in the primary for such office as party-endorsed candidates; provided any such candidate shall be the nominee of the Democratic Party for the office for which he-she is a candidate if no valid opposing candidacy for such office has been filed by a person other than the party-endorsed candidate within the time allowed for such filing by the Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Section 4: The slate of candidates for delegates to a convention, chosen as provided in Sections 1 and 2 above shall run in the primary for delegates to such conventions as the party-endorsed slate, provided such slate shall be deemed elected as delegates to such conventions if no valid candidacy has been filed by a slate of persons other than the party-endorsed slate within the time allowed for such filing by the Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Section 5: Each delegate to a convention elected in conformity with law and these rules may, in writing, designate an alternate delegate or a proxy to act for him in his absence. In the absence of such alternate delegate, the Town Chairperson shall fill any vacancy arising from any cause in delegates to conventions.

Section 6: Candidates for Town Committee members chosen as provided in Sections 1 and 2 above shall run in the primary for Town Committee members as party-endorsed candidates; provided such candidates be deemed elected members of the Town Committee if valid opposing candidacies have not been filed by persons other than party-endorsed candidates numbering at least twenty five percent of the number of Committee members to be elected within the time allowed for such filing by the Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time.

Section 7: If for any reason the caucus fails to make sufficient endorsements of candidates for municipal office, Town

Committee members, or delegates to conventions, the provisions of Section 9-418, 9-419, and 9-420 of the Election Laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time, shall govern.

Section 8: The Secretary and the Chairperson of the Town Committee or the secretary and the presiding officer of the caucus, shall certify to the municipal clerk the names and addresses of the party-endorsed candidates selected as provided in Sections 1 and 2 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 9: Each party endorsement of a candidate to run in a primary for the nomination of candidate for municipal office or for election of Town Committee members or delegates to conventions shall be made not earlier than the forty-ninth day nor later than the thirty-fifth day preceding the day of the primary, and shall be certified to the clerk of the municipality by the chairperson or presiding officer and the secretary of the Town Committee, caucus, or convention, as the case may be, not later than the thirty-fourth day preceding the day of the primary.

Section 10: In the event that a vote taken on the selection of a party-endorsed candidate results in a tie, such a vote may be dissolved by the vote of the Chairperson of the Town Committee, but this provision shall not effect his/her right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee to which he/she is otherwise entitled.

Section 11: If a part-endorsed candidate for nomination to a municipal office, or for election as Town Committee member, or delegate to a convention dies prior to twenty-four hours before opening of the polls at the primary, or withdraws his/her name from nomination prior to ten days before the day of the primary, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold office or position for which he/she is a candidate, an endorsement may be made to fill such vacancy by the Town Committee, by a majority of those present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose; provided that, if the original endorsements made by members of the Town Committee from only one political subdivision of the municipality, only such members shall participate in the endorsement to fill such vacancy. The Chairperson of the Town Committee may cast a vote on such endorsement to break a tie, but this provision shall not effect his/her right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee

to which he/she is otherwise entitled.

The Secretary of the Town Committee shall immediately certify the endorsement to fill such vacancy to the Democratic Registrar of Voters. No candidate shall be deemed to have withdrawn until a letter of withdrawal signed by such candidate is filed with the municipal clerk.

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATION AND ELECTION

Section 1: The nominations of the Democratic Party to all offices, the election of members of the Town Committee, and the election of delegates to conventions shall be made in all respects as provided in the State Law, as the same may be amended from time to time. Whenever a primary for nominations 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 for membership on the Town Committee, and as delegates to conventions, shall be determined by a plurality of votes cast.

Section 2: If a nomination has been made for a municipal office and the nominee thereafter, but prior to twenty-four hours before the opening of the polls on the day of the election for which such nomination has been made, dies, withdraws his name, or for any reason becomes disqualified to hold the office for which he/she has been nominated, a nomination to fill such vacancy may be made by the Town Committee, by a majority of the vote of the members present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose. The Chairperson of the Town Committee may cast a vote on such nomination to break a tie, but this provision shall not effect his/her right to cast any vote as a member of the Town Committee to which he/she is otherwise entitled.

In the case of a withdrawal, said nomination shall not be valid until the candidate who has withdrawn has filed a letter of withdrawal signed by such candidate with the Secretary of the State and also has filed a copy with the municipal clerk.

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.

ARTICLE IX - CONFLICT WITH THE SUPERIOR PROVISIONS

Section 1: If any provision of these Bylaws is found to be in

conflict with the provisions of any state or federal law, the provisions of such state or federal law shall govern.

Section 2: The Bylaws are adopted in accordance with the Rules of the Democratic Party of the State of Connecticut, and in the event any provision of these Bylaws is found to be in conflict with the provisions of the State Party Rules, the provisions of the State Party Rules shall govern.

ARTICLE X - FILING OF RULES

Section 1: Within seven days after the "Granby Democratic Town Committee By-laws" are adopted by the caucus of the Democratic Party in Granby, or any amendments to the By-laws are adopted by the Town Committee, a copy of same shall be filed with the Secretary of the State and 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.

ARTICLE XI - DEFINITIONS

Section 1: As used in these rules "municipal office" means any office for which only the electors of the town may vote and includes the office of each elective public official of the town, justice of the peace, and judge of probate. The other terms used in these rules shall have the same meanings as in the Election laws of the State of Connecticut, as the same may be amended from time to time.

The foregoing Rules governing the Democratic Party of the Town of Granby, Connecticut, were adopted by a majority vote at a duly warned and held caucus of Granby Democrats on August 4, 1983 at the Town Library in Granby, Connecticut.

ATTEST:

William Slewan (?)
<signature on file>
 CHAIRPERSON

David Shaw (?)
<signature on file>
 SECRETARY