## POLICY CONCERNING ELECTIONEERING FOR VOTING IN AUBURN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

NH RSA 659:9 establishes that "It shall be the duty of the moderator to secure the observance of the provisions of the following sections relating to the conduct of voting."

Further, NH RSA 652:14 establishes the "Election officers" in the Town of Auburn "shall mean any moderator, deputy moderator, assistant moderator, town clerk, deputy town clerk, selectman, supervisor of the checklist, registrar, or deputy registrar."

In order to ensure all voters coming to the polls and exiting can do so safely and with no undue interference, the Town Moderator, in concert with the Board of Selectmen and Town Clerk, adopt the following rules for electioneering during voting in the Town of Auburn, New Hampshire.

- 1. At the request of the NH Secretary of State and the Auburn Town Moderator, and with the full support of the Auburn Chief of Police, at least one Auburn police officer will be on duty for each full election day to ensure that voters coming to the polls and exiting can do so safely and with no undue interference.
- 2. The primary designated place for electioneering outside of the polling location at Auburn Village School is at the rear entrance to the building leading towards the cafeteria and gymnasium where the voting takes place.
- 3. All individuals conducting electioneering activity at the polling location must remain behind barricades set up at the polling location entrance at the Auburn Village School. Those engaged in electioneering may stand or sit behind the barricades, but must leave the corridor established for voters to access the polling location clear of any persons, chairs, signs, placards, or other items used for electioneering purposes.
- 4. Tents and tables are prohibited within the primary designated electioneering area.
- 5. Nothing shall be affixed to Town or School District property. All signs, placards or other means of promotion of political candidates, parties, causes, warrant articles, questions, etc., must be hand held at all times. Polls, signs and other paraphernalia attached to barricades or installed as a free standing sign by any means will be ordered removed by the Moderator, any Election Officer or any police officer at the polling location.
- 6. Signs may be placed at the primary electioneering area as early as 6:30 AM the morning of the opening of the polls. Signs must be removed not later than 9:00 PM the evening of the election to ensure the property is clear for the start of the next school day.

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- 7. Those campaigning for election and their representatives shall not call out to citizens as they approach the polling location to vote. It is the right of each citizen to go to the polls undisturbed by electioneering. There should be no behavior by electioneers that could be interpreted as harassment or intimidation. However, if a citizen approaches the candidate or representative and wishes to initiate a conversation, then that electioneer is welcome to respond.
- 8. Candidates for election and their supporters, as well as Election Officials and others, must adhere to the rules that no vehicle may be parked in the designated locations for voting for longer than 15 minutes to enable adequate parking spaces for voters coming to the polls. The Town Moderator strongly encourages all Election Officials, candidates and candidate representatives to park as far away as possible from the entrance to the polling location in order to provide the highest number of spaces available for the voters.
- 9. No Election Officer shall electioneer (attempt to influence the vote of a voter on any question or office) while in the performance of his or her official duties.
- 10. Candidates of representatives shall NOT distribute or post any campaign material within the Auburn Village School during any election.
- 11. Candidates and their representatives, when voting in the election, are warmly welcomed into the polling location to vote; they are, however, discouraged from lingering within the polling location other than during the time it takes to vote, since such behavior could be misconstrued as electioneering within the polling area.

These rules are intended to provide a fair opportunity for all parties to be seen by the voters on election day, while ensuring that all voters coming to the polls and exiting can do so safely and with no undue interference.

These rules shall be enforced as interpreted by the Town Moderator, who is the Chief Election Official for the Town of Auburn and is responsible for the conduct of voting.

The overriding goal of the Town of Auburn is to continue the great civility and cooperation in adhering to all election laws, practices and procedures to ensure the opportunity to vote is available unimpeded to all voters in Auburn.

## POLICY CONCERNING ELECTIONEERING FOR VOTING IN AUBURN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Adopted by the Town Moderator and the Board of Selectmen the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of September, 2014.

James R. Tillery

AUBURN TOWN MODERATOR

Russell C. Sullivan

James F. Headd

Richard W Faton

AUBURN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Received and recorded this 35 day of September, 2014

Joanne T. Linxweiler, Town Clerk