

Town of Middletown Springs

5 South Street | PO Box 1232
Middletown Springs, VT 05757

ELECTION DAY POLICIES

HOURS

Polls are open from **7am to 7pm** for all elections involving Australian Ballot voting.

POLLWATCHERS

Poll watchers are permitted inside the polling place and must remain in the designated observation area (behind the boundary). They must not interrupt the election officials or the election process. **No cell phones or pagers are permitted.**

No one has the right to see the entrance checklist during the election except the election workers, (except in towns with less than 500 voters on the checklist when a written request has been made at least 12 hours before the polls open).

When poll watchers are present, the election workers are to speak loud enough for the poll watcher(s) to hear. Should there be a problem with audibility, the poll watchers will bring the problem to the Presiding Officer at the earliest possible convenience.

The grounds of challenge of a person whose name appears on the checklist shall be only:

1. That they are not, in fact, the person whose name appears on the checklist.
2. That they have previously voted in the same election.

Challenges are heard and decided on by the members of the BCA present at the time of the challenge.

SIGNS OUTSIDE THE POLLING PLACE

No stand-alone campaign signs or materials are allowed on Town owned property. Any materials left unattended on town property will be removed.

CAMPAIGNING OUTSIDE POLLING PLACE

Campaigning is a First Amendment right. Candidates and supporters are asked to check in with the town clerk when they arrive. An Area will be designated for campaigners and candidates outside the town office. People may hold signs in the designated area, but no one is permitted to interfere with any voter entering or exiting the polling place. Campaigners may not block the sidewalks or entrances. We ask that candidates or campaigners not park or hold signs in the town office parking lot. Parking spaces are available on East Street adjacent to the town green or on Park Avenue near the Historical Society building.

NO CAMPAIGN BUTTONS OR LITERATURE INSIDE THE POLLING PLACE

The entire Town Office building is the official polling place. On election day, no campaign literature, stickers, buttons or any other type of information about candidates or other political material may be placed, handed out or allowed to remain in the polling place. No campaigning or any kind by any person for a candidate or issue is permitted inside the polling place.

Voters may bring a small card or folded paper to remind them how to vote or a label or sticker to affix to the ballot to vote for a write-in candidate if these materials are not displayed to others in the room. §2587(e).

No person in the polling place is allowed to wear, display or hand out political material that contains:

- 1) A candidate on the ballot.
- 2) An organized political party.
- 3) Support or opposition for a question on the ballot. §2508.

A person wearing a button or sticker will be asked politely to remove them while in the polling place. Clothing, hats or buttons with general political material are allowed.

These provisions about campaigning also apply to the town clerk's office during the early or absentee voting period. §2508(a)(1)(C).

Adopted by the Board of Civil Authority - February 13, 2024