

CHECK LIST FOR RUNNING FOR OFFICE IN LYNNFIELD

“A Candidate’s Guide to running for Town Election”

- Review **List of Terms Due to Expire** for listing of positions available on this year’s ballot.
- Review **Annual Town Election Calendar**. Note the last day to obtain and return nomination papers.
- Obtain **Nomination Papers** from the Town Clerk’s Office. A request for nomination papers must be made (form can be found in this candidate’s packet). Once you have nomination papers from the Town Clerk, circulate for signatures. Be sure to submit more than the required number (50) for certification so you do not fall short in the event of signatures not certified.
 - All signatures and addresses must be **legible** and written substantially as registered.
 - If the voter’s signature is illegible, you may ask them to print their name next to the signature.
 - The law allows a voter to insert or omit a middle name or initial and still have the signature deemed valid.
- Campaign Finance Activity**

State law requires an accounting of all money received or spent in the course of a political campaign. Candidates are required to submit regular campaign finance reports and to comply with the campaign finance laws and procedures. It is the responsibility of all those participating in political campaign financing in Massachusetts to become knowledgeable with the provisions of the campaign finance law and its regulations. Violations of the law carry serious penalties of fines, imprisonment or both.
- Campaign Activities on Election Day**

Massachusetts state law and regulations G. L. c. 54, § 65. prohibit electioneering, campaigning, and specific other political activities within one hundred fifty (150) feet of a polling place on Election Day. The statutes and regulations which make up these prohibitions are collectively known as the 150-foot Rule.

Prohibited Activities Include:

- Exhibition, Circulation, and Distribution of Materials (campaign signs/materials, clothing/accessories, and stickers)
- Solicitation of Votes
- Influencing or Interfering with Voters
- Petitioning and Gathering of Signatures

On Election Day, at the polling place, political signs must be held by a person. No signs may be put into the ground, hung on fences or put on public property. All unattended signs will be removed by the Police Officers on duty.