

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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CHAPTER 11

MUNICIPAL CAUCUS

Sec.

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§ 361. Rules governing

A municipal caucus is governed by the following provisions:

1. Call. The caucus may be called by the chairman or a majority of the members of the municipal committee.

2. Notice. The secretary of the committee shall have a notice of the caucus published in a newspaper having general circulation in the municipality at least 3 and not more than 7 days before it is to be held. The notice must contain the name of the party, the time and place of the caucus, and the name of the person calling it.

A. Failure to publish. Unless the notice is published as required by this subsection, the caucus is void.

B. Notice filed and recorded. The secretary of the committee shall file a copy of the notice with the clerk who shall record it.

3. Procedure. The chairman of the municipal committee shall open the caucus. In his absence, the secretary or any resident voter enrolled in the party may open the caucus. The caucus shall elect a secretary and a chairman in that order. The chairman of the caucus shall then preside and the secretary shall record the proceedings of the caucus. The caucus shall determine its own parliamentary procedure.

4. If no municipal committee. If there is no municipal committee, any resident voter enrolled in the party may call a caucus for the purpose of electing the committee. He shall follow the notice procedure prescribed by subsection 2.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 362. Voting list

On request at least 3 days in advance of a municipal caucus by the person who calls it, the registrar shall prepare a certified

copy of the voting list for use at the caucus, at the expense of the municipality. The secretary of the municipal committee shall obtain the copy from the registrar and return it to him after the caucus.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 363. Voting procedure

The following provisions apply to voting at a municipal caucus:

1. Vote by list. The caucus may order voting to be done by checking each voter's name on the voting list.

2. Secret ballot. The caucus may order voting to be done by secret ballot which may be printed, or written on plain paper.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 364. Challenges

An enrolled voter of a municipality may challenge the right of another to vote at a municipal caucus. The person challenged may vote at the caucus after he has taken the following oath administered by the chairman of the caucus:

1. Oath. "I, (name of challenged person), swear that I am a registered and enrolled voter in this voting district, that I am a member of the party holding this caucus, and that I have not been enrolled in any other party in this municipality within the last 6 months."

2. Oath recorded and copy sent to registrar. The secretary of the caucus shall record the administration of the oath, and shall send a copy of it to the registrar.

3. Registrar to compare records. On receipt of the copy of the record, the registrar shall compare it with the voting and enrollment records. If the oath is false, the person who swore to it shall be punished as provided in section 1579.

1961, c. 360, § 1.

§ 365. Party members to govern political committees

The members of a party within a municipality shall determine the method of election, the terms of office and the duties of the political committees within its jurisdiction.

1961, c. 360, § 1.