**Filing for Declaration of Candidacy – Town Election
January 25, 2023-Friday February 3, 2023
Town Clerk open from 3-5pm on February 3, 2023**

**Frequently asked questions**

1. **Does the candidate have to be the one to request a Declaration of Candidacy or can a friend or family member pick up a form for him/her?**

A family member or friend is allowed to pick up a Declaration of Candidacy from the Town Clerk and take it to the candidate to be filled out by him/her.

1. **Does the Town Clerk need to keep a list of who is picking up a Declaration of Candidacy?**

Not necessary

1. **Can a friend or family member drop off a completed Declaration of Candidacy?**

Yes – However, on the last day of filing the candidate must come in in person to drop off or fill out a Declaration of Candidacy. This would be a good time to contact the candidate just to be sure he/she completed the form. I ask for a phone and email number on my forms.

1. **When a Declaration of Candidacy comes in the mail does it have to be notarized verifying the candidate’s signature?**

No

1. **If the candidate dates the Declaration of Candidacy prior to the filing period does this make the form invalid?**

No – If a candidate requests a Declaration of Candidacy prior to filling dates (a request you may receive if the candidate is not in town during the filing period) ask that they complete the form and put it in an envelope which you will open on the first day of filing or have them mail the completed form to you BUT remind them – the form MUST be received by Thursday the day before the last day of filing.

1. **If a Declaration of Candidacy is mailed and the Town Clerk gets in the mail on the last day of filing is the form valid?**

No it is not valid – Declaration of Candidacy forms must be received by mail on or before the Thursday before the last day of filing – candidates are required to come in person on the last day of filing – RSA 669:19, if a Town Clerk receives a Declaration of Candidacy in the mail on Friday or any day after the last day of filing the form is invalid.

1. **Is the Town/City Clerk allowed to leave blank Declaration of Candidacy forms outside the office or available on-line for anyone to pick up during the filing period?**No law prohibits the Town Clerk from doing either. However, filings on the last day of the filing period **MUST** be town in-person at the Clerk’s Office.
2. **If a candidate submits a Filing for Declaration of Candidacy form during the filing period, is there any point at which they can withdraw their candidacy?**Yes.  They are allowed to withdraw their name up until 5:00pm on the last day of the filing period.  As soon as that window closes, they **MUST** be on the ballot.