

CHAPTER 51
REGISTRATION APPEALS BOARD

1. Establishment

Pursuant to the Maine Law on Elections, Title 21-A, Chapter 3, Section 103, the City of Ellsworth hereby establishes the Registration Appeals Board.

2. Appointment

A. Board members shall be appointed by the City Council and sworn in by the City Clerk or other persons authorized to administer oaths.

B. The Board shall consist of three members appointed as follows: The municipal committee of each of the major political parties shall nominate one member, who must be enrolled in the party of the committee that nominates the member, and the City Council shall appoint the persons nominated by the municipal committees and the 3rd member must be nominated by the City Clerk and appointed by the City Council. The City Clerk may give the municipal committees of the political parties a list of qualifications necessary for a person to fulfill the duties of the registration appeals board, and the municipal committees shall take those qualifications into consideration when nominating members to the board. The two members of the board nominated by the municipal committees of the major political parties may be members of the municipal committee nominating them and of the county or state committees of the political party that nominates them and may be members of a state or county delegation to a political convention. When a municipal committee nominates a member to the registration appeals board, it shall also nominate an alternate board member, who serves if the member nominated by the municipal committee is or becomes unable to serve. The City Clerk may not serve as a member or alternate member of the registration appeals board. “

3. Term of Office. Each member nominated by the municipal committees of the major political parties and appointed to the board shall serve for 3 years and until the member’s successor is appointed and sworn. The member nominated by the clerk of the municipality and appointed to the board shall serve for four years and until that member’s successor is appointed and sworn.

4. Chairperson of The Board. The member nominated by the City Clerk is chairman of the board.”

5. Vacancy. When there is a vacancy on the board, the alternate board member nominated by the municipal committee of the political party of the former incumbent shall serve. If an alternate is not available, the City Council shall

appoint a qualified person nominated by the municipal committee of the party of the former incumbent to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy is in the office of the chair of the board, the City Council shall appoint a qualified person nominated by the City Clerk to fill the vacancy. Vacancies must be filled for the remainder of the term of office.

6. Hours. Upon receipt of a complaint by a person aggrieved by the decision of the registrar, the chair of the registration board shall immediately fix a time and place for the board to meet for a prompt hearing. After hearing, the board may affirm, modify or reverse the decision of the registrar of voters. The aggrieved person may appeal the decision of the board to the District Court in accordance with Rules of Civil Procedure.
7. Actions of the Registration Appeals Board. A registration appeals board may only act by unanimous or majority action.
8. Removal from office. A member of the board may be removed from office at any time during the member's term by the appointing authority if the appropriate nominating authority nominates a replacement. Any replacement member shall serve out the remainder of the replaced member's term.