



## Town Clerk's Office

Town Hall Room 12

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Amy E. Hennessy Neves, Town Clerk

**February 2022**

### **What's Happening Now at the Town Clerk's Office:**

#### **Nomination Papers:**

Nomination papers for the April Town Election became available starting on January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:00 a.m.

The following elected positions will be on the ballot April 5, 2022:

- (1) Select Board Member, 3 year term
- (1) Member of the Board of Assessors, 3 year term
- (1) Member of the Board of Health, 3 year term
- (2) Board of Library Trustees, 3 year terms
- (1) Park Commissioner, 3 year term
- (1) Member of the Planning Board, 5 year term
- (1) Sewer Commissioner, 3 year term
- (2) Members of the School Committee, 3 year terms
- (1) Member of the Housing Authority, 5 year term
- (2) Vernon Grove Cemetery Trustees, 3 year terms
- (5) Constables, 3 year terms

Town Meeting Members all 8 Precincts.

In order to run for an elected office, you are required to be a registered voter in Milford. You will need to obtain nomination papers by the February 11<sup>th</sup>. Potential candidates would need to obtain at least fifty (50) valid signatures of registered voters within the Town of Milford. Ask sure voters are signing their names as they are registered to vote and legibly to be counted.

Nomination papers will be available until 4:30 p.m. on February 11<sup>th</sup>.

The deadline to return nomination papers will be 4:30 p.m. on February 15, 2022.

Ten (10) Town Meeting Member seats in all Precincts will also be up for re-election. New Candidates for Town Meeting are required to pull nomination papers and obtain at least thirty (30) valid signatures within their own Precinct. The deadlines will be the same as listed above.

Please call our office in advance of your arrival so we can prepare the nomination papers for you. Thank you.

#### **Absentee Voting:**

If you are unable to vote at your Precinct during normal polling hours on Election Day for one of the following three (3) reasons:

1. absence from Milford during normal polling hours; or

2. physical disability preventing you from going to the polling place; or
3. religious belief,

you would be eligible to vote by Absentee Ballot. Please apply as soon as possible to ensure sufficient time for receiving a ballot by mail and also to mail the ballot back to our office before 8:00 p.m. on election day. The deadline to apply for an absentee is 12:00 noon the day before the election, but may not be sufficient time to mail a ballot to you. Those wishing to vote Absentee at the Town Clerk's Office can do so in person up until the deadline which is 12:00 noon the day before the election. Please contact our office if you need an application or if you have any questions.

### **How Do I Become a Permanent Absentee Voters?**

If you are physically unable to go to your polling location to vote at any of our elections, you could request to be placed on our "permanent" absentee list each year by providing us a letter from your physician's office stating that you are unable to vote at your polling location due to illness or physical disability. Applications for permanent absentee voters would be automatically sent to you each year to ensure you still intend to vote by permanent absentee. If you do not return the application we would remove you from the permanent list.

### **Registering to Vote:**

You may submit an application to register or pre-register to vote in Massachusetts if:

- You are a citizen of the United States; and
- You are 16 years old; and
- You are not currently incarcerated by reason of a felony conviction.

If you meet the above requirements, you may apply online, by mail, or in-person.

Please note that if you are pre-registering at age 16, your registration will be placed in a pending queue until you reach the age of 18. If you move after you pre-register, please contact our office so your name can be removed from the queue. You can only legally be registered to vote in one city/town in Massachusetts.

If you are currently incarcerated for a felony conviction you are not eligible to register to vote.

If you are currently 18 years of age or older and a U.S. Citizen and wish to vote in any elections in the Town of Milford and have not already registered to vote, you have multiple ways you can register.

1. Register to Vote while at the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Please know that if you are already registered, you do not have to re-register again at the RMV. If you have moved, you can change your home address while at the RMV. You may also change your enrollment in a political party at the RMV if you wish. Please keep a receipt of any voting transactions at the RMV. Voter registrations and any voter changes can be done before any voter registration deadlines (which would be 20 days before any election).

2. Register to Vote On-line

In order to register to vote online, you must have a signature on file with the Registry of Motor Vehicles. If you currently have a Massachusetts driver's license or state ID card, you may use the online voter registration application to register, update your address, or change your party affiliation. Voter registration forms submitted online must be submitted by midnight on the date of the voter registration deadline, which is 20 days before an election. The link to register on-line through the Secretary of the Commonwealth is as follows:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>

3. By Mail.

If you do not qualify to register to vote online, or if you would prefer to register by mail, you may download the voter registration form by using one the links provided below. The form must be completed, signed, and delivered to the Milford Town Clerk's Office. Voter registration forms submitted by mail must be postmarked no later than the voter registration deadline (20 days before an election). Download a form from the Town of Milford's website:

<https://www.milfordma.gov/sites/milfordma/files/uploads/voter-reg-mail-in.pdf>

or from Elections:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ele/eleifv/howreg.htm>

4. In Person.

You can complete a new voter registration form or make any changes to your registration (address or party affiliation) while at the Town Clerk's Office.

**Change of Home Address:**

You must update your voter registration every time you move. If you have moved, you may update your registration by filling out a new voter registration form and returning it to the Town Clerk's Office. If you move after the deadline to register to vote in a state election or primary, you should wait to update your registration until after the date of the election or primary, and return to vote at your previous polling place in Massachusetts. State law allows you to vote from a previous address in a state election/primary (only) for up to six month after you have moved, as long as you have not registered elsewhere. You may need to provide a valid ID at your polling location before voting.

**Why Do I Need to Answer My 2022 Annual Street Listing (Annual Census)?**

YES! Your household will be receiving your Annual Street Listing (Annual Census) soon. In 2020 you received the Federal Census which is a different document. It is very important to review the information on the street listing and for you to return your signed form to the Town Clerk's Office. If you do not or have not answered your Annual Street Listing (Annual Census)

this year or in past years this may cause your Voting Status to be changed to Inactive. Please know that Inactive Voters will still be allowed to vote at the polls after they show a valid photo I.D. and complete an Affidavit of Continuous Residence with the Warden in their Voting Precinct. It is very important to keep your information current for voting and residency required purposes.

### **What Do I Do With the Annual Street Listing (Annual Census) When I Receive it?**

The following information will need to be answered and/or verified on your Census form within (10) ten days of receiving your form:

- \*Full names of everyone living in the household, both adults and children.
- \*Birth dates of everyone living in the household.
- \*The “eldest” person in the household will be listed as “Y” for the “Head of Household” unless you designate another person.
- \*Current occupations of those living in household should be listed (you can also list “retired”, “student” or “none” if applicable).
- \*Nationality (indicate only if **not** a U.S. Citizen)
- \*A valid phone number for the household. You can indicate if number is “unpublished”.
- \*You must indicate if anyone in the household has since passed (“**D**” **Deceased**) or has moved (“**M**” **Moved**) please provide us their new address, even if out of State. We can only remove voters if we have their signatures and may need to mail them a form if their signature is not on the census form that is returned.
- \*Do not remove college age children if Milford is their legal address.
- \*You can indicate on the document if you are a Veteran.
- \*Your party affiliation will be listed near your name (“D” Democrat, “R” Republican, “U” Unenrolled/Independent, etc.)
- \*If your voter status is listed as Inactive, the status will be updated only if we receive a signed Census for the current year.
- \*Your census form cannot be used as a Voter Registration form. If you need to register to vote, please use one of the above ways to register to vote.
- \*Please make any changes to your Census by printing legibly. You can make changes more noticeable by using a different color of ink other than black ink.
- \*If the Census you have been mailed is correct or has been corrected by you, please sign and date the form and return it to the Town Clerk’s Office within 10 days.

### **The Census forms can be returned by:**

1. **Mail** (with the envelope provided),
2. **In person** (there will be a drop-off box at the Town Clerk’s Office)
3. **By email to** ([milfordannualcensus@townofmilford.com](mailto:milfordannualcensus@townofmilford.com))

\*If you do not receive a form, please contact our office.

\*If you do not complete and return your Census, you will be made “Inactive” and an “\*” will appear near your name on the next voting list and possibly removed from future lists (MGL

Ch.51, Sec.4c). If “Inactive” you will also be required to produce and show a valid form of ID along with completing an Affirmation of Continuous Residence with your Precinct Warden if/when you were to go vote.

**Our Website:**

<https://www.milfordma.gov/> (Main page)

**RAVE (Smart911) Messages (Town of Milford “Robo” calls):**

If you wish to have your phone numbers or email addresses registered to receive important notices about upcoming Town Elections, Voter Registration Deadlines, Dog licensing, etc., you can go to [www.milfordpolice.org](http://www.milfordpolice.org) or [milfordpublicsafety.com](http://milfordpublicsafety.com) and add your information. If you are currently receiving notices and you no longer live in Milford, please contact the Police Department at (508) 473-1113 to have your information removed.