



Town of Lamoine
Jennifer Kovacs, Town Clerk
606 Douglas Hwy.
Lamoine, ME 04605

(207) 667-2242

clerk@lamoine-me.gov

Guidelines for Poll Watchers & Petition Gatherers

Poll watching and petition gathering are important parts of the election process and the Town of Lamoine recognizes the right for both activities to be present at the polling place. However, it is also important that the election process itself not be compromised by the potential for chaos due to the presence of these individuals. Here is a set of standards that the Town of Lamoine has set in regard to such activities.

Location – Poll watchers shall be limited to one of each party. They shall be seated at a table placed outside of the guardrail area.

Petition signature gathering personnel shall be limited to two inside the building. Folding chairs will be provided in the entrance area of the town hall so as not to impede traffic.

Conduct Expectations – Poll watchers are expected to be silent so that they can hear the name of the registered voter requesting a ballot.

Watchers are not to use cell phones or other electronic devices inside the building. Such communication shall take place outside of the building.

In the event that election officials are required to use office equipment to print more ballots (photocopier, letter folder machine), that generate a fair amount of noise, poll watchers may stand closer to the guardrail area, but not inside the guardrail area.

Extraneous conversation shall not discuss any candidate or issue that is being voted upon and shall not take place while voters are in the process of requesting, filling out or casting their ballots.

Petition signature gathering personnel shall only speak with voters who have already cast ballots. Conversation shall be in a tone and volume so that it is not heard within the confines of the guardrails.

The warden and/or town clerk shall be the sole authority to determine whether such activity is disruptive and any person requested to leave because of disruption shall do so immediately.

Other Activities at the polls – Election and other town officials may conduct official business during the election, including normal business transactions at the clerk/tax collector's counter, in the Code Enforcement Office, and in the Administrative Assistant's office. Such activity shall be conducted in a quiet manner so that it does not disrupt the election process. Voter registration activity conducted simultaneously with the election shall take place at the clerk's counter. Town personnel shall strive to maintain the integrity of the voting place. The town clerk and/or warden shall determine whether any activity not required for the conduct of elections is disruptive and direct any town personnel causing a disruption to cease and conduct such official town business elsewhere.