

Local Law 9-2023

A local law adding Chapter 7 (Candidate Disclosure) to the Village of Ossining Code.

BE IT ENACTED by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ossining as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 7 (Candidate Disclosure) is added to the Village of Ossining Code with new matter underlined.

7-1 Purpose

The Board of Trustees finds that following recent high-profile misrepresentations of personal experience among candidates for elective office, additional measures are necessary to ensure that members of the public can be confident that their local elected officials have the experience that they profess to have obtained. Candidates for the elected positions of mayor and trustee will be required to complete a Candidate Disclosure form providing biographical information, including the candidate's educational, military and employment histories. Such forms will be available to the public except for that information which is required to be withheld pursuant to state or federal law.

7-2 Process

No later than thirty (30) days following: a) the designation and nomination of candidates for the elective offices of mayor and/or trustee pursuant to Village Charter section C2-5 or b) the appointment of a person to the position of mayor and/or trustee pursuant to Village Charter section C2-11, such candidate or appointee shall file with the Village Clerk a "Candidate Disclosure Form" providing the following information:

- A. The full legal name of the candidate or appointee as well as any previously used legal names.
- B. The names of all post-secondary educational institutions (including, but not limited to, trade or vocational schools, colleges and graduate programs) where the candidate or appointee enrolled for the purpose or intent to receive a degree, certification, license or similar official recognition of the completion of a course of study, along with dates of enrollment, whether the candidate or appointee graduated, and, if so, the month and year of graduation and the degree, certificate, license or similar recognition received.
- C. The names and addresses of all full-time employment held by the candidate or appointee in the ten (10) years prior to candidacy or appointment, including the dates of employment and titles held, the nature of the business and the type of employment (self-employed, contract or employee).
- D. Military service by the candidate or appointee, including dates of service, branch of the military, highest rank held and type of discharge.
- E. A certification by the candidate or appointee that the information contained in the form is true to the best of the candidate's or appointee's knowledge.

The form shall be provided by the Village Clerk upon the candidate's designation and nomination or upon the person's appointment.

7-3 Disclosure of Candidate Disclosure form

The Candidate Disclosure form shall be subject to public disclosure in its entirety other than information that is subject to redaction pursuant to state or federal law.

7-4 Advisory Opinion

A candidate or appointee may request an advisory opinion from the Board of Ethics in the same manner as set out in section 17-5E of the Village Code and the Policies and Procedures of the Board of Ethics.

7-5 Severability

The provisions of this chapter are separable and if any provision, clause, sentence, subsection, work or part thereof is held illegal, invalid or unconstitutional, or inapplicable to any person or circumstance, such illegality, invalidity or unconstitutionality, or inapplicability shall not affect or impair any of the remaining provisions, clauses, sentences, subsections, words or parts of this chapter. It is hereby declared to be the legislative intent that this chapter would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional provision, clause, sentence, subsection, word or part had not been included therein.

7-6 Effective date

This local law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Municipal Home Rule Law.