

Comparison of Nonpartisan Election Systems - Election of Municipal Mayor and Trustees

Town	Composition of Legislative Body	Nominating Entity	Potential Nominees' Identities and Interviews: Public vs Private	Potential Nominees: discussion of Issues?	# of Nominees per Vacancy	Frequency of Independent Candidates	Pre-Election Discussion of Issues	Method of Voting; Mail-in Ballot provision?	Voter Turnout: votes cast for mayor in most recent election
Scarsdale, NY	Mayor and 5 Trustees	CNC	all private	NO	One	2012	None		
Lake Forest, IL	Mayor and 8 Aldermen(2 from each ward)	Caucus Committee on Candidates		NO	One	very rare	None	Entire caucus votes on slate by secret ballot at annual meeting. Election in Spring	1,474 (population 19,375)
Glencoe, IL	Village President and 6 Trustees	Glencoe Caucus	public interviews; residents are encouraged to attend		One	one in mid-1990's (entire independent slate won)	None	Slate voted on by registered voters at December town meeting; if ratified, petitions circulated for endorsement of candidates. Election in Spring	
Glen Ellyn, IL	Village President and 6 Trustees	Civic Betterment Party	private interviews	Applicants "disclose... views on community issues..." in application.	at least 2		All candidates videotape and present short speech. Brief synopsis of views prepared by CBP made available to media. Attendees of Town Meeting have afternoon to interview candidates	At November/December Town Meeting or within 7 days prior to Meeting. General election in Spring	
Garden City, NY	Mayor and 7 Trustees	Community Agreement Party . Each of 4 POA's nominate 2 candidates for CAP slate	public	"Nothing is off limits for discussion..."	One	2009 (independent candidate) and 2011 (independent party ran against Community Agreement Party slate)	Yes	Residents of 4 Assoc. meet on same date in January to vote on slates proposed by nominating committees. Additional nominees may be presented. If so, a local primary election is held 2 weeks later. The winners becomes that section's nominees on the Community Agreement Party's ballot for the March General Election.	2,672 total turnout; mayor candidate received 1,978 votes (population 22,370)

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Winnetka, IL	Village President and 6 Trustees	Caucus Council	Candidates names are made public prior to Committee's private interviews	At discretion of Committee	One	2010 contested election. First in 8 yrs	At full meetings candidates may make presentations and answer questions from Council members	Annual Town Meeting between Nov-Jan to elect slate for Spring election	1,766 - (11/12 precincts reported) - (population 12,187)
Montclair, NJ	Mayor and 6 Councilers	No Nominating Entity - Candidates nominate themselves. Non-Partisan			usually several; Councilers elected based home district.		Debates and community forums held.	Elections conducted according to NJ election law	contested election; 7,136 voters (28% of electorate)
Cedar Grove, NJ	5-member Township Council, which includes Mayor	No Nominating Entity - Candidates nominate themselves. Non-Partisan			usually several; Elections NOT based on home district		Debates and community forums held, but not required.	Elections conducted according to NJ election law	2011 Council-at-large - 1,231 votes (population 12,411)
Ocean Township, NJ	5-member Township Council, which includes Mayor	No Nominating Entity - Candidates nominate themselves. Non-Partisan			depends on the year; Elections NOT based on home district		Debates and community forums held.	Elections conducted according to NJ election law	