



GAS WORKERS UNION LOCAL G-555

UTILITY WORKERS UNION of AMERICA, AFL-CIO



ELECTION COMMITTEE

7777 EXCHANGE STREET, SUITE 11 - VALLEY VIEW, OHIO 44125 📍 PHONE: (216) 328-0154 📞 FAX: (216) 328-0368 📠 WEBSITE: www.G-555.com

March 6, 2024

To: All Candidates in the Thursday, March 28, 2024 District Elections

Dear Candidate:

Congratulations on your successful nomination for elected office of Gas Workers Union Local G-555, Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO (Local G-555). Below are some of your rights and rules as a candidate.

RIGHTS OF CANDIDATES REGARDING THE ELECTION

1. CAMPAIGN LITERATURE MAILINGS

- a. As noted in the Nomination Notice and in the Election Notice, candidates have the right to have Local G-555 mail campaign literature to the entire membership (or some portion thereof, if practicable) at your own expense provided the request is reasonable. The candidate must notify the Election Committee in writing (emails are acceptable) of their intent to mail literature.
- b. Candidates must provide the appropriate number of mailings in stuffed, sealed envelopes or other approved mailers (i.e. postcards) with correct postage to the Election Committee in a sufficient amount of time for the Election Committee to apply member address labels and for said items to be taken to the Post Office for delivery. Arrangements for mailings, requests for number of members per Shop, District, etc. can be made by emailing the Chairperson of the Election Committee at Elections@G-555.com or by U.S. Mail at G-555 Election Committee, 7777 Exchange Street, Ste 11, Valley View, OH 44125.
- c. As in past elections, candidates may have **one mailing processed by the Election Committee at no cost to them**. Candidates will be responsible for the cost of any additional mailings which includes the time of the Election Committee members to print and affix address labels to the candidate's campaign mailers and transport them to the Post Office for delivery. Cost of processing a mailer is \$220.00 and must be paid prior to the work being performed.

2. ACCESS TO EMAIL BLAST SYSTEM, SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE

- a. Candidates will have the ability to have campaign literature sent by email to the members who subscribe to the Local's email system (MailChimp). Due to confidentiality concerns, the distribution of campaign literature will be done without revealing members' email addresses. **PLEASE NOTE:** Local G-555 only has email addresses for approximately one-half of the membership so any distribution by email will only reach that limited portion of the membership. Candidates will also be allowed to have a link to campaign literature and/or a personal campaign page's web address



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(where applicable) on both the G-555.com Election page as well as in a post on the Local's Official Facebook page. Both of these locations will have the names of all candidates listed with links taking members to any campaign literature candidates have provided and/or a valid web address to a personal campaign page (Facebook, blog, personal website, etc.) the candidate may have established.

- b. Beginning on Friday, March 15, 2024 and continuing every Friday through March 22, 2024, the Election Committee will send by email and post on the Local G-555 webpage and Facebook page all reasonable requests for distribution of campaign literature received by 4:00 pm the preceding Wednesday. In addition, the Election Committee will send by email and post on the Local G-555 website and Facebook page all reasonable requests for distribution of campaign literature received by 4:00 pm on March 22, 2024. There will be no distributions of campaign literature by the Election Committee after March 22.
- c. The electronic campaign literature will be sent by email to all G-555 subscribers via MailChimp weekly on Fridays beginning on March 15, 2024, with the final update/communication taking place on March 22, 2024. Campaign literature must be provided to Elections@G-555.com and must be received by 10:00 a.m. Eastern time on the Wednesday before the communication is set to go out. Email materials may contain text and/or graphics. Acceptable file types for text are: email body text (i.e., text in the email that can be copied & pasted), word docs, and .pdf files. Acceptable file types for graphics are: .pdf, .jpg, .png files.
- d. Candidates will be afforded one initial email distributed via MailChimp as well as one initial link on the G-555.com Election page and on the G-555 Facebook page for all Candidates without charge. Thereafter, Candidates will be responsible for the cost of distribution of the emails, which includes the time to add the links/documents into the Local's digital media library, format the weekly emails into the MailChimp email templates, add links to the website and Facebook page, etc. for any additional changes to the material or the link at a cost of \$20.00 to the candidate which must be paid in advance. (Note: the Election Committee will allow candidates to send the same information on 3/22 as on 3/15 for no additional charge. The \$20 fee will only be applicable if the information and/or links change from one week to the next.)

3. MEMBERSHIP LIST REVIEW

- a. As noted in the Nomination Notice and in the Election Notice, once within the thirty (30) day period prior to the election, candidates may inspect a list containing the names and last known addresses of all members of Local G-555 at the Union Offices located at 7777 Exchange Street, Suite 11, Valley View, Ohio 44125. Per U.S. Department of Labor Regulations, the right of inspection does not include the right to copy the list but does include the right to compare it with any personal list of members you may have. The Election Committee will be available on March 13th and March 15th, 2024, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm for candidates to inspect the membership list. Candidates must make



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arrangements in advance for a time on the days listed with the Chairperson of Elections at Elections@G-555.com. Candidates must provide a good daytime phone number along with their scheduling request. Consideration will be given to requests to view the membership list on dates other than those listed above upon a showing of good cause made to the Election Committee.

4. ELECTION OBSERVERS

- a. As noted in the Nomination Notice and in the Election Notice, candidates have the right to have an observer (i) at the polls and (ii) at the counting of the ballots.
- b. Only Local Union members can serve as election observers.
- c. Candidates may serve as their own observer.
- d. If a candidate plans on having an observer present at the polls and/or during the counting of the ballots, the candidate must notify the Election Committee in writing of this fact and further notify the Election Committee in writing whether the candidate will serve as his or her own observer or identify who will serve as the candidate's observer. The deadline for providing such notifications is Thursday, March 21, 2024, at 3:00 p.m., Eastern Time. Candidates may email the Chairperson of the Election Committee at Elections@G-555.com or send via U.S. Mail to:
G-555 Election Committee, 7777 Exchange Street, Ste 11, Valley View, OH 44125.

ELECTION RULES REGARDING CANDIDATES

1. No candidate or supporter of any candidate may solicit or accept financial support or any other direct or indirect support of any kind (except an individual's own volunteered personal time) from a non-member of the Utility Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO per Article IV, Section 6 of the Local G-555 By-Laws.
2. Federal law prohibits the use of Local G-555 and/or Dominion Energy Ohio funds (including facilities, equipment, supplies, and campaigning on time paid for by Local G-555 or Dominion Energy Ohio) to support any person's candidacy in this election. Please be aware that the prohibition against the use of union and employer funds applies to the funds of any union, not just Local G-555, and any employer, not just Dominion Energy Ohio.
3. Campaigning may be done in-person outside of Company buildings in spaces such as parking lots on the employee's own time. No campaigning may be done on Company paid time or inside Company Buildings.
4. Campaign literature may be placed in employee mailboxes, handed out outside of Company buildings, posted on all union boards, and left in common areas (i.e. break rooms). Employees may not post literature on the outside of their cubicles or in work areas other than those listed above.



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5. Observers will not be permitted to campaign, distribute literature, or engage in campaign activities, including conversations about candidates or the election campaign or wear campaign buttons, stickers, or other campaign apparel promoting any candidates, inside the polling place.

Fraternally,

The Local G-555 Election Committee

Paul Talboo, Chairperson

Rick Higinbotham

J. J. Popio