

10/23/2024  
Oath of Office  
M. Arndt

Pursuant to the assignment to explore with the Woodbury Town Clerk if an oath of office is required by statute and if it should be included in the Charter, I was advised as follows:

Elected officials are required by statute to take an oath of office via General Statute 9-231 [Chapter 146 - Elections](#).

Also, see <https://cga.ct.gov/2014/rpt/pdf/2014-R-0034.pdf>.

The town of Woodbury swears in both elected and appointed officials. See page 7 of [https://woodburyct.org/vertical/Sites/%7B59751637-3DF2-41D3-B20A-866E470B1D1D%7D/uploads/Guide to Service Brds Comm.pdf](https://woodburyct.org/vertical/Sites/%7B59751637-3DF2-41D3-B20A-866E470B1D1D%7D/uploads/Guide%20to%20Service%20Brds%20Comm.pdf).

Subject to advice from the Board of Selectmen and legal counsel, proposed language to be included in the Charter, for the purpose of being explicit as well as ensuring compliance, follows:

Chapter III. Elected Officers, Boards, and Commissions (etc.)

"All election officials shall take an oath of office upon election and before beginning a term in office, pursuant to General Statute 9-231."

Chapter VI. Appointed Officers, Boards, and Commissions (etc.)

"All appointment officials shall take an oath of office upon appointment and before beginning a term in office."

The following language may also be appropriate in Chapter IX. Standards of Conduct:

"All election and appointment officials shall take an oath of office upon election or appointment and before beginning a term in office."

For further reference, see Acts Of The First Congress of the United States on March 4, 1789 at <https://tile.loc.gov/storage-services/service/l1/l1sl/l1sl-c1/l1sl-c1.pdf> (beginning on pg 23; pg 142 on your screen).

Any additional advice, please advise.

Respectfully submitted by  
Margaret Arndt  
CRC member

