

Town of New Canaan – Flag Policy

PURPOSE

It is the intent of the Town of New Canaan to establish a Town wide policy which follows the United States and State of Connecticut provisions governing the display and care of flags, including the United States flag, the State flag and Town flag on Town owned buildings and properties, excluding those under the care, custody and control of the Board of Education. Further, it is the intent of the Town of New Canaan that this Town wide policy govern the display of signage and/or other forms of public expression on Town owned buildings and properties.

SCOPE

The Town follows Federal and State of Connecticut laws, regulations and protocols governing the display and care of flags.

The Town's flagpoles, buildings and properties are not intended to serve as a forum for free expression by the public. Any flags displayed on Town flagpoles or signage on Town owned buildings and properties reflect the Town's official sentiments as government speech and expression consistent with the Town's mission and priorities.

POLICY

1. The flags authorized to be flown or otherwise displayed on or over Town owned buildings and property are:
 - a. The United States flag;
 - b. The State of Connecticut flag;
 - c. The Town of New Canaan flag;
2. In addition to any federal or state protocols or directions, the First Selectman (or designee) may order the Town flag to be flown at half-staff for up to one week under the following circumstances:
 - a. On the death of any of the following individuals:
 - i. New Canaan First Selectman, Former First Selectman or First Selectman-elect;
 - ii. Current New Canaan elected official;
 - iii. Current New Canaan Department Heads;
 - iv. Any other local official, Town employee, citizen, or other individual deemed by the First Selectman to have made significant contributions to the benefit and welfare of the Town and citizens of New Canaan.

- b. Any instance where a Town employee or First Responder has been killed in the line of duty or has died as a direct result of injuries incurred while in the performance of official duties.
3. The First Selectman shall state the reason or name of the individual in whose honor the flag or flags have been lowered to half-staff in his or her report at the first Board of Selectmen meeting following the lowering of the flags to half-staff.
4. All other forms of public expression, signage and/or displays are prohibited on Town flagpoles and Town owned buildings and property.

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