

Chapter 4 Changes Previously Approved by the Charter Commission

Clean Version approved by the Charter Commission 11-17-2021

Sec. 4.1. - The regular municipal election.

A regular municipal election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even- numbered year, at such places as the city council shall designate. At least 15 days prior notice shall be given by the city clerk by posting a notice thereof in at least one public place in each election precinct, and by publishing a notice thereof at least once in the official newspaper of the city stating the time and the places of holding such election and of the officers to be elected. Failure to give such notice shall not invalidate such election. Elected and qualified officers provided for by this Charter shall assume the duties of office to which they were elected on the first Monday in January following such election.

4.1.1 Primary elections.

The regular Primary election shall be held on the same date as prescribed by Minnesota Election Law, which establishes the statewide primary election date. The primary election shall be for the selection of two nominees for each elective office at the regular municipal election. If two candidates or fewer file for any elective office, that office shall not appear on the primary ballot and the candidates shall appear on the municipal general election ballot as the nominees for that office.

Sec. 4.2. - Filing for office.

All persons who shall desire to be elected to any elected office shall file an affidavit not more than 84 days nor less than 70 days before the primary election with the city clerk, paying a filing fee to the city clerk in an amount as set by ordinance or filing a nominating petition. The clerk shall also accept an application for candidacy as authorized by state law.

The city clerk shall prepare and have printed at the expense of the city the necessary ballots or other required material

for such election.

The ballots or other material shall contain no political party designation of any candidate and the names of the candidates for each office shall be rotated in the manner provided by state law. Consistent with state law, the ballots or the results shall be counted and preserved and the city clerk shall be the final custodian of such ballots or returns for the city.

A sample ballot or a facsimile representation of the ballot shall be posted at the place of election at least one week before such election by the city clerk, whose duty it is to preserve such sample ballots.

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Sec. 4.4. – Special and advisory elections except for elected office.

The council may, by resolution, order any special or advisory election deemed appropriate by the council, for any reason, and provide all means for holding it, except that any election so ordered shall only be held on the same date as a regular municipal election. This section does not apply to special elections to fill vacancies in municipal offices.