

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR REGULAR CITY ELECTIONS FOR ELECTION OF OFFICERS OF THE CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA; DEFINING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION, FORM OF BALLOT AND QUALIFICATION OF ELECTORS; PROVIDING FOR REGISTRATION OF ELECTORS, CONDUCT OF ELECTIONS AND RETURNS THEREOF, AND FOR THE TERM OF OFFICE OF SUCH OFFICERS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it is necessary for the protection and preservation of the peace, safety, health and property of the City and its inhabitants that this ordinance be enacted; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF MEXICO BEACH:

Section 1. WHEN HELD. In accordance with the City Charter, Section 5.05, regular city elections for the election of officers for the City of Mexico Beach shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, in those years in which an election is necessary.

Section 2. QUALIFICATIONS. Candidates for the offices of Council Member and Mayor-Councilman shall be qualified electors, citizens of the United States and shall have resided within the corporate limits of the City at least one (1) year prior to the date of their qualifying for office.

Any qualified elector of the City who meets the foregoing qualifications may qualify for election to a Council seat by designating the group number (Section 2.03 - City Charter) for which he desires to run, by paying a qualification fee of Twenty Five Dollars (\$25.00), and by taking and subscribing to an oath which shall be substantially in the following form:

State of Florida

County of Bay

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, personally appear _____, to me well known, who being sworn, says that he is a candidate for the office of _____; that he is a qualified elector of Bay County, Florida; that he is qualified under the Constitution and the laws of Florida to hold the office to which he desires to be nominated or elected; that he has not violated any of the laws of the State relating to elections or the registration of electors; that he has qualified for no other public office in the State, the term of which office or any part thereof runs concurrent with that of the office he seeks, and that he has resigned from any office from which he is required to resign pursuant to s. 99.012, F.S.

(Signature of Candidate)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____
at Mexico Beach, Florida

(Signature/Title of Officer)

Such fee and oath shall be filed with the City Clerk not less than thirty (30) days nor more than forty-five (45) days prior to the date of such election. Waiver of filing fees may be as prescribed by Section 2.02(A), City Charter.

Section 3. NAMES ON BALLOT. The names of all candidates qualified in accordance with the provisions of Section 2. hereof shall be placed upon the ballot in alphabetical order under each Council Member's group and the candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast in the Mayor-Councilman race shall be elected, and the candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast in the respective group shall be declared elected; provided, however, in the event that two or more candidates shall have received an equal number of votes for any office, and the tied vote shall be among the candidates receiving the highest number of votes, the tie shall be resolved by a run-off election to be called and held by the City Council within fifteen (15) days. The Council members shall be elected at large by the qualified voters of the City.

Section 4. QUALIFICATIONS OF ELECTORS. Any person shall be allowed to vote at such regular city elections who is a qualified voter under the Laws of Florida, and who is duly registered in the registration book for qualified electors of the city.

Section 5. REGISTRATION OFFICER. The City Clerk shall register all persons applying for registration whose names are not already upon the registration books and who are qualified electors under this ordinance and the Laws of Florida. The registration books will be closed for registration 30 days prior to the holding of a regular city election. On the last day of registration prior to a regular city election persons may register until 5:00 PM (CST).

Section 6. CLERKS, INSPECTORS, DEPUTY - APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION. The City Clerk shall make all necessary arrangements for holding regular city elections. Two inspectors, one clerk of election and one deputy shall be appointed by the City Clerk. The City Council shall determine the compensation to be paid to said inspectors, clerk, and deputy and shall pay the same from the General Fund.

Section 7. NOTICE OF ELECTIONS. The City Council shall announce any regular or special election, except run-off elections. The method of announcing said election shall be by posting said notice in three (3) public places in the City of Mexico Beach, two of which shall be the City Hall and Post Office, said notice to be posted not less than four (4) weeks prior to the election. In the event of a run-off election notices will be posted not less than 10 days prior to the election.

Section 8. ABSENTEE ELECTORS. Absentee electors may request and be furnished absentee ballots as provided by F.S. 101. All absentee ballots shall be returned to the City Clerk not later than 7:00 PM (CST) on the day of the election; absentee ballots will be given to the Clerk of the Election and be counted (canvassed) as other ballots.

Section 9. OPENING AND CLOSING POLLS. The polls at all regular city elections shall open at 7:00 AM (CST) and close at 7:00 PM (CST). The results of the voting shall be certified by the Clerk and Inspectors of the election; results will be posted in a public place at the City Hall and will be announced at the next regular Council meeting.

Section 10. All regular elections of the City of Mexico Beach shall be held and conducted substantially on the principal adopted for State elections, insofar as there is no conflict with the terms of this ordinance or the provisions of the Election Laws of Florida.


Section 11. Any person elected to the office of City Council Member or Mayor-Councilman shall continue in office until the election and qualification of his successor (Section 2.03, City Charter), unless sooner removed in accordance with the provisions of the laws and ordinances governing the City of Mexico Beach.

Section 12. Any and all ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.


Section 13. This ordinance shall take effect as provided by law.

INTRODUCED at a regular meeting of the City Council on May 13, 1986, and ADOPTED at a regular meeting on June 10, 1986.

CITY OF MEXICO BEACH, FLORIDA


James T. Heathcock
Mayor-Councilman

ATTEST:


Patricia L. Hutchinson
City Clerk