



Candidate's Frequently Asked Questions

1. When does the nomination period open?

The nomination period opens on Monday, July 15, 2024 at 8:00 AM and closes on Friday, August 9, 2024 at 5:00 PM. If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the City are not filed by 5:00 PM Friday, August 9, 2024, the voters shall have until Wednesday, August 14, 2024, to nominate candidates for that incumbent's elective office. Nomination papers are issued by appointment only.

2. Is there a fee involved in filing for office?

No.

3. What if I change my mind about being a candidate after I have filed my nomination papers?

You may withdraw your candidacy any time prior to the close of the nomination period. If you choose to withdraw after that date, your name will appear on the ballot.

4. Is there anything I can do before the nomination period opens?

Before a candidate raises any money a Candidate Intention Statement (Form 501) must be filed with the City Clerk's Office. If a candidate intends to raise or spend less than \$2,000, an Office Holder and Candidate Campaign Statement-Short Form (Form 470) must be filed with the City Clerk's Office.

5. When does a candidate's nomination become public?

From the time a candidate pulls papers at the City Clerk's Office, a candidate's name becomes public information. When a Candidate submits nomination papers or files a Candidate Intention Statement (Form 501) with the City Clerk, their nomination becomes official and is also public information. A full list of candidates will be available in the City Clerk's Office on the first workday following the close of the nomination period. The period closes on Friday, August 9, 2024, or, if an incumbent does not file, Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

6. Is the candidate responsible for the payment of the Candidate Statement?

No, the City Council determined, "the City has resolved that the City will pay the cost of the candidate's statement" (Resolution SC 24-29)

7. May I change or correct the wording or spelling on my Candidate Statement after submission?

No. Please check your Candidate's Statement very carefully before submitting. It will be printed exactly as submitted.

8. How many words can my Candidate Statement include?

200 words. Please refer to the Candidate's Handbook for more detailed information.

9. Do the Mayor and Councilmembers receive monetary compensation?

Yes. Currently the Mayor is compensated \$9,600 and Councilmembers \$3,600 annually. Effective December 2024 the Mayor will receive \$17,400 and Councilmembers \$11,400 annually.

10. How often does the City Council meet?

The City Council holds its Regular Meetings at 5:30 PM on the second and third Tuesdays of each month. Other special meetings are scheduled as City business necessitates.

11. Why is there so much paperwork involved in being a candidate?

State election laws are very specific as to format, filing dates, and other regulatory provisions. The filing dates and other provisions are not discretionary.