

ABILENE CITY CHARTER

(Excerpt)

ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS, INITIATIVE, REFERENDUM AND RECALL

Sec. 24. Annual elections.

The regular election of council to places on the council occupied by council whose terms are expiring and the regular election of the mayor, if his term is expiring, shall be held on such date as prescribed by the election laws of the State of Texas. In such election each qualified voter shall vote for not more than one candidate for each council place to be filled, and for not more than one candidate for mayor. Said elections shall be ordered by the Council, and in case of its failure to order same, the mayor shall make such order. In case of the inability of the council and mayor to act, the elections may be called by the city secretary, and in case of his inability to act, by the county judge of Taylor County, Texas, and in case of his inability to act, by the governor of the State of Texas. The city secretary shall give notice of such election by causing said notice to be published at least thirty (30) days prior to the day of such election.

(As amended 4-3-76; Ord. No. 42-2006, pt. 2(2), 8-28-06 / referendum 11-7-06)

Sec. 25. Regulation of elections.

All elections shall be held in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas regulating the holding of municipal elections and in accordance with this Charter and ordinances or resolutions adopted by the council for the conduct of elections. The council shall appoint the election judges and other election officials and shall provide for the compensation of all election officials in the city elections and for all other expenses in holding said elections.

Sec. 26. Application for candidacy.

Any qualified person may make application to have his name placed on the official ballot for the post of councilman or mayor. The application shall be made in accordance with all applicable laws and shall state that the candidate agrees to serve if qualified and elected. There shall be six councilman places; councilman places Nos. 1, 3 and 5 shall be filled by qualified candidates residing at the time of the election north of the main line of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company tracks as located at the time of the effective date of this Charter; and place Nos. 2, 4, and 6 shall be filled by qualified persons residing at the time of the election south of said main line. Said applications shall be filed with the city secretary within time limits as provided by state law.

Sec. 28. Runoff elections.

If no candidate receives a majority of all the votes cast for an office, the council shall immediately upon declaring the official results of the election, order a run-off election for each office to which no one was elected. Such run-off election shall be held on such date as prescribed by the election laws of the State of Texas and in such run-off election the two (2) candidates who received, in the preceding election, the highest number of votes for each office to which no one was elected, shall be voted on again by the qualified voters, and the candidate who receives the majority of the votes cast for each such office in the run-off election shall be elected to such office.

(Ord. No. 42-2006, pt. 2(4), 8-28-06 / referendum 11-7-06)

[NOTE: A full version of the Abilene City Charter can be found at <http://z2.franklinlegal.net/franklin/Z2Browser2.html?showset=abileneset>.]