

Chapter 7

ELECTIONS*

Sec. 7-1. ADOPTION OF STATE LAW

All rules, regulations, procedures and other provisions pertaining to municipal elections within the City not provided for shall be as provided by State law.

(Code 1971, § 6-1)

Sec. 7-2. DATE OF REGULAR ELECTION

See Article III Section Three (d), Charter of the City of Archer.

Sec. 7-3. NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

- a) The City Manager shall, at least forty-five (45) days prior to all City elections, post notices of the date of the elections of the City offices to be filled by such election, of the place of such election, and of the City offices to be filled by such election and the qualification period for candidates for these offices.
- b) The above notice shall be posted in a clearly observable location at the United States Post Office, located in the City and at the Archer City Hall. Also, the City Manager shall cause a copy of the above notice to be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the City. The notice shall be published once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks and the date of the first publication of the notice shall be at least forty-five (45) days prior to the City election for which it is given. (Ord. no. 135 § 1, 2-5-73)

Sec. 7-4. GROUPING OF CANDIDATES; RUN-OFF ELECTIONS

*Charter reference- Art. III.

- a) The City Commission shall declare each seat to be filled on the Commission as a separate group; and the candidates shall, at the time of qualifying, designate the group in which they shall run. The candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast in each group shall be elected.
- b) If no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in a group or groups, a run-off election shall be held on the second Tuesday following the former election day between the two (2) candidates in such group or groups receiving the highest number of votes cast. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast in such run-off election shall be elected.

(Code 1971, § 6-5)

Sec. 7-5. QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES

- a) Before any person shall be qualified to run for an elective office in the City, he or she shall have been a resident of the City for at least six (6) months next preceding the date of registration therefor and continue residency for the entire period while in elective office and otherwise qualified under State law.
(Ord. 7-2004, § 1; 08-23-04)
- b) Any person desiring to be a candidate for any elective office for the city shall qualify therefor with the City Manager between noon of the 50th day through and until noon of the 46th day before the 1st primary. (Ord. No. 1-98, § 1(b))
- c) If a candidate is to be nominated by petition, not less than five (5) qualified electors shall sign such petition and present to the city manager between noon of the 50th day through and until noon of the 46th day before the first primary, which will qualify the candidate's name to be placed on the ballot.
(Ord. No. 1-98, §1(c))

- d) At the close of the qualifying period referred to in Section 7-5 (b) and (c) above, should any seat have no qualified candidate a second qualifying period shall be scheduled and any person desiring to be a candidate for that seat(s) shall qualify with the city manager noon of the 29th day through and until none of the 25th day before the general election.(Ord. 7-2004, § 1; 08-23-04)

- e) At the close of the qualifying period referred to in Section 7-5 (b) and (c) above, should any seat have no qualified candidate a second qualifying period shall be scheduled and if the candidate is to be nominated by petition, not less than five (5) qualified electors shall sign such petition and present to the city manager between noon of the 29th day through and until none of the 25th day before the general election.(Ord. 7-2004, § 1; 08-23-04)

Sec. 7-6. APPLICATION OF STATE LAWS ON CAMPAIGN FINANCING AND CODE OF ETHICS

All elected officials of the City shall be subject to Florida Statutes Ch. 106 (campaign financing) and Florida Statutes § 112.311 et seq. (Code of Ethics) as prescribed in such laws.

(1980 Code, § 7-6)

Sec. 7-7. ABSENTEE BALLOTS

SEE SECTION 97.021(1) FLORIDA STATUTES.

Sec. 7-8. CERTIFICATION, CANVASS OF ELECTIONS

Immediately after each election held within the city, the inspectors of election shall certify to the city commission the result and tally of such election, which such result and tally shall be canvassed by the city commission. (Code 1971, § 6-11)

Sec. 7-9. ALTERNATIVE VOTING METHOD

a) Definitions;

Alternative voting system means a paper only ballot system to be used when the required voting machines are not available from the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections.

Paper ballot means that printed sheet of paper, containing the names of candidates, or any other item to be voted on by the electorate, on which sheet of paper an elector can cast his or her vote.

Required voting machines means those voting machines required for use in all Florida elections as required by Florida Law by September 2002. (Ord. No. 7-2002, §1)

- b) Accepted Alternative Voting Method. The City of Archer shall use paper ballots as the accepted alternative voting system for municipal elections when the required machines are not reasonably available from the Alachua County Supervisor of Elections. Across the top of the ballot shall be printed. "Official Ballot, Municipal Election of The City of Archer," and the date of the election. The following instructions shall be printed upon the ballot:

There are ____ seat open for election. Please vote for ____ candidates.

The candidates for elections shall be listed alphabetically with a box to indicate the voter's choice. (Ord. No. 7-2002, §2)