

CHAPTER VI

Elections

Section 24. Councilors.

The term of a councilor in office when this charter is adopted is the term for which the councilor was elected. At each general election after the adoption, two councilors will be elected for four-year terms. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 25. Mayor.

The term of the mayor in office when this charter is adopted continues until the beginning of the first odd-numbered year after adoption. At every general election after adoption, a mayor will be elected for a two-year term. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 26. State Law.

City elections must conform to state law except as this charter or ordinances provide otherwise. All elections for city offices must be nonpartisan. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 27. Qualifications.

(a) The mayor and each councilor must be a qualified elector under state law, and reside within the city for at least one year immediately before election or appointment to office.

(b) No person may be a candidate at a single election for more than one city office.

(c) Neither the mayor nor a councilor may be employed by the city.

(d) The council is the final judge of election and qualifications of its members. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 28. Nominations.

The council may adopt an ordinance prescribing the manner for a person to be nominated to run for mayor or a city councilor position. If no ordinance is adopted, state election law applies. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 29. Terms.

The term of an officer elected at a general election begins at the first council meeting of the following year immediately after the election and continues until the successor qualifies and

assumes the office. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 30. Oath.

The mayor and each councilor must swear or affirm to faithfully perform the duties of the office and support the constitutions and laws of the United States and Oregon. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 31. Vacancies.

The mayor or a council office becomes vacant:

(a) Upon the incumbent's:

- i. Death,
- ii. Adjudicated incompetence, or
- iii. Recall from the office.

(b) Upon declaration by the council after the incumbent's:

- i. Failure to qualify for the office within 10 days of the time the term of office is to begin,
- ii. Absence from the city for 30 days without the mayor or council consent, or from all council meetings within a 60-day period,
- iii. Ceasing to reside in the city,
- iv. Ceasing to be a qualified elector under state law,
- v. Conviction of a public offense punishable by loss of liberty,
- vi. Resignation from the office. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)

Section 32. Filling Vacancies.

(a) A vacancy in the position of mayor shall be assumed by the council president until the mayor's term of office expires. Once the council president assumes the position of mayor, the council president's council position shall be deemed vacant and the council shall elect a new council president.

(b) When a vacancy in the position of councilor occurs, the city council, at the next regularly scheduled council meeting, shall begin the process of filling the vacancy as follows:

i. If two years or more remain on the term of a council position when such position is declared vacant, the council may appoint, by majority vote of the remaining councilors and mayor, a qualified elector to serve until the next scheduled election that is at least sixty days after the appointment is made. Any qualified elector under this charter may make the proper nominating procedures as outlined in Section 28, Nominations, and seek election for the remaining term of the council position that was declared vacant at that scheduled election.

ii. If there is less than two years remaining in a council position declared vacant, the remaining councilors and mayor shall appoint a qualified elector to serve the remaining term of the vacant council position.

iii. In either case, if the council appoints a qualified elector to a vacant council position, the council shall hold a public meeting to interview potential candidates. The council may use whatever methods it determines are necessary to obtain qualified electors to serve on the council. (Approved by voters in general election held November 6, 2012)