



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Title: Request for Council Action – Ordinance No. 3 for 2026 – Amending SHMC 2.04.030 Nominations & Declaring the Need for an Expediency Clause

Preferred Agenda: July 28, 2026

Submitted By: Cecily Hope Pretty, Deputy City Manager

Reviewed By: Jason Ogden, City Manager / Police Chief

Type of Action: Motion ☒ Resolution ☐ Reading ☒

Relevant Code/Policy: House Bill 4024 (2024), SHMC 2.04.030

Towards Council Goal: Effective & Efficient Government

Attachments: Ord. No. 3 for 2026
SHMC 2.04.030 – Redline Version

Purpose of this RCA:

The purpose of this RCA is to amend section 2.04.030 of Sweet Home Municipal Code (SHMC) to bring it into compliance with changes to Oregon candidate filing regulations made effective in 2024 through House Bill 4024.

Background/Context:

The Oregon State Legislature made changes to several portions of election-related code in its 2024 session, including a requirement that incumbent candidates shall now have a filing deadline seven (7) days sooner than non-incumbent candidates. The City's current code related to the timing of candidate filing was last updated in 1986 through Ordinance 949.

A first reading of the proposed Ordinance was conducted during the July 14, 2026 City Council meeting.

The Challenge/Problem:

House Bill 4024 has created a conflict with SHMC 2.04.030 which needs to be resolved in order for the City's Code to be compliant with the new regulations. The proposed amendment separates the Code section into two parts to distinguish between the requirements for non-incumbent vs. incumbent candidates.

Issues and Financial Impacts:

There is no fiscal impact as a result of these changes. The City does not have the authority to override this regulation so in the event the conflict remains in SHMC 2.04.030, staff will still enforce the provisions of HB 4024.

Elements of a Stable Solution:

Approval of changes that will align the City's code with State requirements and to resolve the conflict prior to the closure of the candidate filing period for the November 2026 City Council election.

Options:

1. Move to deny Ordinance No. 3 for 2026: The Code section will stay as it currently is with no changes and will remain in conflict with State requirements.
2. Move to conduct a third reading of Ordinance No. 3 for 2026 by title only as proposed at the next City Council meeting: A final reading by title only will occur at the next regularly Council meeting.
3. Move to conduct a third reading of Ordinance No. 3 for 2026 with amendments at the next City Council meeting: City Council may propose revisions to the Ordinance to be reviewed at the next City Council meeting.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends option #2: Move to conduct a third reading of Ordinance No. 3 for 2026 by title only as proposed at the next City Council meeting.