

Introduced by: Mayor Eberhart
Date: July 11, 2016

ORDINANCE NO. 6025

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING FAIRBANKS GENERAL CODE
SECTION 22-9, DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY BY
AFFIDAVIT, TO ALIGN THE FILING DEADLINES WITH
THOSE OF THE FAIRBANKS NORTH STAR BOROUGH**

WHEREAS, FGC Sec. 22-9 provides that a person seeking to run for city elected office must file a declaration of candidacy no earlier than August 1 and no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 15; and

WHEREAS, the Fairbanks North Star Borough recently amended its code of ordinances to change the declaration of candidacy filing dates to July 15 through July 29; and

WHEREAS, Borough Ordinance No. 2015-57 contained the following as reasons to support the change of dates: the current mid-August deadline for filing for local offices shortens local campaigns and the time period available to learn about candidates; and the Tanana Valley fair, typically held in early August before the local filing deadlines, would otherwise provide an excellent opportunity for candidates to meet, hear and interact with borough citizens; and

WHEREAS, to the extent possible, the City of Fairbanks tries to maintain uniformity with the Borough in its election procedures; and

WHEREAS, the proposed change to FGC 22-9 will align the City's declaration of candidacy filing dates with those of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, in order for the City to amend the declaration of candidacy filing dates in its code of ordinances, City voters will have to approve an amendment to the City's Charter, and, therefore, this ordinance will not become effective unless and until such a charter amendment is approved.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRBANKS, ALASKA, as follows:

Section 1. Fairbanks General Code Section 22-9 Declaration of Candidacy by Affidavit, subsections (a), (b) and (d) are hereby amended as follows [new text in **bold/underline** font; deleted text in ~~strikethrough~~ font]:

Sec. 22-9. – Declaration of candidacy by affidavit.

(a) At least ~~65~~95 days before each regular election, the city clerk shall publish in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the city a notice of offices to be filled at the election and the manner of declaring candidacy.

(b) Any qualified person may have ~~their~~his name placed on the ballot as a candidate for not more than one elective office by filing no earlier than ~~August 1st, nor later than August 15th~~July 15th at 8:00 a.m., nor later than July 29th at 5:00 p.m., with the city clerk, a sworn declaration of candidacy. If July 29 falls on a Saturday or a Sunday, the filing deadline will be 5:00 p.m. the following Monday. Candidates for elective council office shall file a conflict of interest statement in accordance with the provisions of AS 39.50 at the time of filing a declaration of candidacy. Each candidate shall file the name and address of the campaign treasurer with the state public offices commission in accordance with the provisions of AS 15.13 no later than seven days after the date of filing a declaration of candidacy. A \$25.00 filing fee shall accompany every declaration of candidacy.

(d) Any candidate desiring to withdraw ~~their~~his declaration of candidacy may do so at any time during the period for filing a declaration of candidacy and up to five business days following the closing date for filing. All declarations of candidacy which are not withdrawn shall be preserved by the city clerk for one year.

Section 2. This ordinance was passed by the City Council on the 25th day of July 2016, but no change will become effective unless and until Proposition A of Ordinance No. 6024 is ratified by the voters of the City of Fairbanks.



JOHN EBERHART, MAYOR


AYES: Pruhs, Gatewood, Huntington, Cleworth, Matherly, Rogers
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None
ADOPTED: July 25, 2016

ATTEST:



D. Danyielle Snider, CMC, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Paul Ewers, City Attorney