

NOTICE OF CITY ELECTION

ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1180L

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA PROVIDING FOR ELECTION OF ONE COMMISSIONER WARD I AND ONE COMMISSIONER WARD II, PROVIDING FOR QUALIFYING DATES AND A QUALIFYING FEE, DESIGNATING A POLLING PLACE, AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION OFFICERS, STATING WHO MAY VOTE, PROVIDING FOR ABSENTEE BALLOTS, PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF A CANVASSING BOARD AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

**WHEREAS**, under the laws of Florida and the Charter of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida, it is provided that any city election shall be published and conducted as provided by the City Charter or Ordinance governing all City Election Laws; and

**WHEREAS**, the Charter of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida requires that a city election be established by city ordinance; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED** by the City Commission of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida:

(1) A city election shall be held in the City of Wewahitchka on the 9th day in August and if a run off election is necessary, it shall be held on the 30th day of August 2016, and

(2) The place of voting shall be at the Community Building (Senior Citizen Bldg.) on Third Street in the City of Wewahitchka, Florida and that the poll shall be open for voting from 7:00 AM CENTRAL Time until 7:00 PM CENTRAL Time on the day of the said city election, and

(3) The purpose of this election is to elect one City Commissioner Ward I, and one City Commissioner Ward II whose term of office shall be for four (4) years, beginning on the first Tuesday in September following the election. An elected official holding office shall serve until the respective successor is elected and sworn into office.

(4) Anyone possessing the qualifications for this office as prescribed by the Charter of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida may qualify with the City Clerk at City Annex between noon on July 11, 2016 and noon on July 15, 2016 CST Time, and

(5) The qualifying fee to the candidate(s) for office shall be \$37.00 payable at qualifying time at the office of the City Clerk, and

(6) The candidate receiving the majority of votes cast from the City at large shall be elected and declared City Commissioner, and for the term specified by charter,

In the event there are more than two candidates for said office and no candidate shall receive a majority of the total votes cast for such office, then another election shall be held 3 weeks from the date of the first election at which the names of the 2 candidates for such office receiving the largest number of votes in the former election shall appear on the ballot; and

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(7) In any election where there are 2 or more candidates for the same office and should 2 candidates receive the same number of votes, the Election shall be decided by lot, conducted by the City Commission at the meeting held for the purpose of deciding the outcome of the election as herein provided.

(8) **A.** The City Commission shall appoint 6 persons as Election Officers, and 2 alternates designated as alternate 1 and 2. Alternates 1 & 2 will serve respectively in the event an appointed Election Officer (s) fails to serve for any reason.

**B.** Before entering upon the performance of their duties, all election officials shall take an oath in writing before the City Clerk, or in his/her absence, before any authorized officer qualified to administer oaths to the effect that they will perform the duties according to the Charter of the City of Wewahitchka, and will endeavor to prevent all fraud, deceit, or abuse in conducting the same, and

(9) No person shall be allowed to vote in any election for the purpose of electing a City Commissioner Ward I and Ward II of the City Commission for the City of Wewahitchka, who is not a qualified voter under the state law and who has not registered as an elector of said city in such manner as is provided by state law.

(10) All absentee ballots shall be cast with the CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS until 7:00 PM CENTRAL Time, the day of the election, and will be accepted through mail until 7:00 PM CENTRAL Time the day of the election. The same procedure applies to the runoff absentee ballots. These ballots shall be placed in the ballot box after the polls are closed and will be canvassed by the canvassing board appointed by the City Commission.

(11) The City Commission shall appoint a canvassing board of 3 persons, one of whom shall be a sitting Commissioner, not a commissioner whose name appears on the ballot, and 1 alternate who shall serve only in the event a board member fails to serve. The canvassing board shall determine the validity of all ballots cast and the number of votes cast for such candidate, including absentee ballots. The canvassing board shall publicly, following the close of the polls on Election Day, will certify by signature the results of the election to the City of Wewahitchka Supervisor of Election. A recount of all eligible votes cast shall be conducted should the number of votes between 2 candidates be 10 or less.

**THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE EFFECT IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS ADOPTION.**

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Commission of the City of Wewahitchka, Florida at a regular meeting on April 25, 2016.



  
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Connie Parrish, City Clerk

**CITY OF WEWAHITCHKA**

  
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Mayor Pro-Tem Tony Justice