



General Information for May 2020 Candidates

Eligibility Requirements*

To be eligible to serve on the City Council, a person must:

- be 18 years of age or older on the first day of the term to be filled, a citizen, and a qualified voter of the State of Texas and the City of Georgetown; and
- have been a resident of the Council District for the six months immediately preceding the filing deadline (in this case the filing deadline is February 14, 2020).

Schedule of Expected Meetings

Service on the City Council is a commitment of your time. The City Council regularly meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Workshops and executive sessions are held prior to the regular Council meetings. There will occasionally be special called meetings and joint meetings with advisory boards, commissions, and other entities.

Additionally, each City Council member may serve on one or two city Boards and/or Commissions. These Boards will require additional monthly meetings at dates and times to be determined.

Statement of Elected Official

Be advised that once elected, you will be asked to sign the following Statement of Elected Officer:

“I, _____, do solemnly swear that I have not directly or indirectly paid, offered, promised to pay, contributed, or promised to contribute any money or thing of value, or promised any public office or employment for the giving or withholding of a vote at the election at which I was elected, so help me God.”

Conduct of Election

The City of Georgetown contracts with the Williamson County Election Administrator to conduct the General Election in conjunction with other entities such as cities, school districts, and municipal utility districts throughout the County. Therefore, polling locations are determined by the Williamson County Election Administrator and are considered for approval by the City Council.

Voting

Early voting by personal appearance will begin on Monday, April 20, 2020, and end on Tuesday, April 28, 2020.

Election Day – Saturday, May 2, 2020 - Polls will open at 7:00 a.m. and close at 7:00 p.m.

Write-In Candidates

Votes for write-in candidates will not be counted UNLESS the candidate has filed a declaration of write-in candidacy by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. The Williamson County Voter Registrar will post a list at each polling place of all those individuals who have declared for write-in candidacy.

Political Signs

Signs can be placed on private property with the consent of the property owner but may not be placed on or within public rights-of-way or on public property. A City permit is not required to post campaign signs. State law requires that the following notice be written on each political advertising sign:

NOTICE: IT IS A VIOLATION OF STATE LAW (CHAPTERS 392 AND 393, TRANSPORTATION CODE) TO PLACE THIS SIGN IN THE RIGHT OF WAY OF A HIGHWAY.

- A Council candidate must be 18 on the first day of the term to be filled and must have been a resident of the District for the 6 months immediately preceding the filing deadline, in accordance with state law.

The Election Code authorizes home rule cities to adopt age and residency requirements greater than those in state law, but such local provisions cannot require a candidate to be more than 21 on the first day of the term and cannot require residency in the District for longer than 12 months immediately preceding election day. Otherwise, the local provision is void, and the applicable statute would apply. The Charter requires a candidate to be 21 at the time of election, which in turn requires the candidate to be greater than 21 years on the first day of the term (as the term will always commence after the election). Similarly, the Charter requires a candidate to be a resident of the District for 12 months prior to the filing deadline, which in turn requires the candidate to be a resident for 15 months preceding election day (as the filing deadline is 3 months before election day). Therefore, the Charter's age and residency requirements are both void, and the requirements of state law apply.