

Regular Workshop – October 17, 2016
Agenda Item 7
Consent Agenda

Agenda Item: Proposed Ordinance 2016-31, Establishing the Dates for the 2017 Preliminary and General Municipal Elections and the Early Voting Schedule

Presenter: Town Clerk

Summary: The Town's Charter establishes the date for the Town's General Election as the third Tuesday in March. In conjunction with the established City of Sarasota General Election, the 2017 General Election will be held on March 14, 2017, in accordance with the Charter. Additionally, if required, a Preliminary Election would be scheduled on the last Tuesday in January (January 31, 2017).

Chapter 36, Elections, of the Town Code provides for establishing early voting in accordance with State law and established procedures. The dates and times for early voting are statutorily restricted and will coincide with the schedules established by the Supervisor of Elections (SOE) offices.

Proposed Ordinance 2016-31 has been drafted for Commission consideration seeking confirmation of the Preliminary (if required) and General Municipal Election dates as well as providing for early voting dates and hours to be determined by the SOE offices.

Attachments: 10-10-16 Memo, Town Clerk to Manager;
Proposed Ordinance 2016-31.

Recommended Action: Approval of the Consent Agenda will forward proposed Ordinance 2016-31 to the November 7, 2016, Regular Meeting for first reading.

M E M O R A N D U M

Date: October 10, 2016

TO: David Bullock, Town Manager

FROM: Trish Granger, Town Clerk

SUBJECT: Proposed Ordinance 2016-31, Establishing the Dates for the Town's 2017 Preliminary and General Municipal Elections and Early Voting Schedule

Article II, Section 4, of the Town's Charter sets the date for the Town's Preliminary Election as the last Tuesday in January and the General Election as the third Tuesday in March.

The Charter provides an option to align the Town's elections with any other County administered election. The City of Sarasota General Election date has been established as March 14, 2017, which is the second Tuesday in March.

In compliance with the Charter, the 2017 Preliminary Election, if required, would be scheduled for January 31, 2017. The General Election will be scheduled for March 14, 2017, in conjunction with the City of Sarasota's election date.

Chapter 36, Elections, of the Town Code provides for establishing early voting in accordance with State law and established procedures. The dates for early voting will be coordinated with the schedule proposed by the Supervisor of Elections offices.

Proposed Ordinance 2016-31 establishes the dates for the Preliminary (if required) and General Municipal Elections and provides for participation in early voting.

If you require additional information, please advise.

ORDINANCE 2016-31

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR MARCH 14, 2017, AS THE GENERAL ELECTION DATE; JANUARY 31, 2017, AS THE PRELIMINARY ELECTION DATE, IF REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR BALLOT PRESENTATION; PROVIDING FOR ADVERTISING OF ELECTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Longboat Key Charter Article II, Section 4 states: “The preliminary election shall be held on the last Tuesday of January and the general election shall be held on the third Tuesday of March, or when practicable, in conjunction with any County administered election held in March by the coordinating County, either Sarasota or Manatee County;” and

WHEREAS, the City of Sarasota General Election has been scheduled to be held on March 14, 2017; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Longboat Key Code Section 36.06 provides for early voting; and

WHEREAS, early voting provides citizens greater access to elections and facilitates increased voter participation; and

WHEREAS, advertising the elections are required by law and provides citizens with greater knowledge of election ballot issues.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY, FLORIDA, THAT:

SECTION 1. The above Whereas clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

SECTION 2. The election date for the General Election is hereby set as Tuesday, March 14, 2017, in conjunction with the City of Sarasota General Election, and the election date for a Preliminary Election, if required, is hereby set as Tuesday, January 31, 2017.

SECTION 3. Early voting for the General Election shall be conducted at the Offices of the Supervisor of Elections in Manatee and Sarasota Counties as provided for in Florida Statutes.

SECTION 4. The ballot presentation for the Longboat Key General election shall include: the names of the qualified candidates (if more than one) for Town Commission Districts 2, 4, and At-Large, and any approved referendum questions forwarded by the Town Commission.

SECTION 5. Advertising of the election shall comply with State election laws and the Town Charter.

SECTION 6. Copies of this Ordinance shall be provided to the Manatee County Supervisor of Elections and the Sarasota County Supervisor of Elections.

SECTION 7. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision of this Resolution is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Town Commission.

PASSED on first reading on the ____ day of _____, 2016.

ADOPTED on second reading and public hearing at a meeting of the Town Commission held the ____ day of _____, 2016.

Jack G. Duncan, Mayor

ATTEST:

Trish Granger, Town Clerk



End of Agenda Item