

**INDEPENDENT MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES
MAYOR-COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT**

2016 ELECTION CALENDAR

- July 29th **FILING PERIOD BEGINS** for Independent Candidates for municipal offices with Mayor Council Form of Government. Candidates must file a Petition of Nomination, an Affidavit of Eligibility, Petition Affidavit, and a Political Practices Pledge with the County Clerk's Office. A.C.A §14-42-206 (b)(1)
- Aug 19th **FILING PERIODS ENDS** 12:00 P.M. (NOON). A.C.A §14-42-206 (b)(1)
- Aug 22nd Deadline for Candidates to file Statement of Financial Interest with the **City Clerk or Recorder**, unless a statement was filed as an incumbent office holder by January 31, 2016.
- Aug 29th Deadline for candidates to draw for ballot positions in the General Election A.C.A §7-5-207 (c)(1)
- Oct 10th DEADLINE to register to vote in the GENERAL ELECTION
- Oct 24th **EARLY VOTING BEGINS** in the **General Election**.
Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and Monday prior to the election 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. A.C.A. §7-5-418(a)
- Oct 31st DEADLINE to register to vote in the GENERAL RUN-OFF ELECTION
- Nov 1st Deadline for Candidates to file 10 day Pre-Election Report for the General Election, if required. Report covers all campaign activity from Filing date through October 29, 2016.
- Nov 7th **EARLY VOTING ENDS** at 5:00 P.M. for the **General Election**. A.C.A. §7-5-418(a)
- NOV 8th GENERAL ELECTION**
- Nov 22nd Deadline for Candidates to file 10 day Pre-Election Report for the General Election Run-off. (If required) Covers all campaign activity from November 9, 2016 through November 29, 2016.
- Nov 22nd EARLY VOTING BEGINS in the General Run-off Election.
Tuesday – Monday, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and NO Saturday voting. A.C.A. §7-5-418(a)(2)
- Nov 28th EARLY VOTING ENDS at 4:30 P.M. for the General Run-off Election. A.C.A. §7-5-418(a)
- NOV 29th GENERAL ELECTION RUN-OFF**
- Dec 30th Deadline for **ALL** Candidates to file Final Report (Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Report) for the General Election. (REQUIRED)
- Dec 30th Deadline for Candidates to file Final Report (Campaign Contributions and Expenditures Report) for the General Run-off Election. (REQUIRED for Run-off Candidates)

2016 MAYOR-COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT FILING INFORMATION

PREPARED BY THE BENTON COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE

Petitions for Nomination - Independent Municipal Candidate: {A.C.A. §14-42-206(b)(1)}

Filing Time: **Begins – July 29, 2016 Ends - August 19, 2016 at 12:00 NOON**

Filing Place: **County Clerk's Office:**

Bentonville – Benton County Admin Bldg, 215 E Central Avenue, Suite 217

Rogers – 1428 W. Walnut Street

Siloam Springs - 707 S Lincoln Street, Suite C

Any qualified person desiring to be a candidate for municipal office in the General Election to be held on November 8, 2016 must file a Nominating Petition, Affidavit of Eligibility, Petition Affidavit, and Political Practice Pledge with the County Clerk by the deadline date: **August 19, 2016 at 12:00 noon.**

Political Practice Pledge, Affidavit of Eligibility, Petition Affidavit, Statement of Financial Interest and Campaign Contribution and Expenditure forms will be provided to the Candidate at the time of filing. Therefore, it is suggested that the candidate appear, in person, in the office of the County Clerk to complete filing requirements.

For a **City of the First Class**, the Petition must contain signatures from not less than thirty (30) qualified electors of the city in which the candidate files.

For a **City of the Second Class or Incorporated Town**, the Petition must contain signatures from not less than ten (10) qualified electors of the city in which the candidate files.

NO WRITE-IN CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICE ALLOWED (A.C.A §14-43-202)

In order to assist the candidate in their filing requirements, information packets and forms are available at the County Clerk's Office. The County Clerk recommends that candidates circulate Petitions for signatures well in advance of the deadline to file in order that proper certification of the signatures on the Petitions may be made.

Deadline to register to vote for the General Election is Monday, October 10, 2016.

Early voting for the General Election is Monday, October 24th through Friday, November 5th, Weekdays 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturdays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Monday November 8th 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Statement of Financial Interest: {A.C.A §21-8-701(c)(1)(A)}

A candidate for municipal office must file a Statement of Financial Interest with the **City Clerk or Recorder** by **August 22, 2016**, unless a statement was filed as an incumbent office holder by January 31, 2016, then they shall not be required to file an additional statement.

Campaign Contribution and Expenditure reports: {A.C.A §7-6-208(a)(1)&(2)}

Pre-election Report: {A.C.A. § 7-6-208 (a)(1)}

Opposed Candidates are required to file if they have contributions or expenditures in **excess** of five hundred dollars (\$500.00). This Report covers all campaign activity through October 29, 2016.

Deadline to File: November 01, 2016 (No later than seven days prior to the General Election)

Final Report: {A.C.A. § 7-6-208 (a)(2)}

Required of **ALL** candidates, regardless of contributions or expenditures

Deadline to File: December 30, 2016

INDEPENDENT MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS TO BE ELECTED IN 2016 MAYOR-COUNCIL FORM OF GOVERNMENT

ALL candidates must be a qualified elector, resident of the city/ town, at least 18 years of age, **elected at-large**.
All candidates for Alderman **MUST** live in the ward, where applicable, and **file by position number**.

INCORPORATED TOWN: AVOCA, GATEWAY, SPRINGTOWN

- Recorder/Treasurer 2 year term
- Alderman (Positions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) 2 year term

CITIES of the SECOND CLASS: BETHEL HEIGHTS, CAVE SPRINGS, DECATUR, GARFIELD, HIGHFILL, LITTLE FLOCK, SULPHUR SPRINGS

- Recorder/Treasurer 4 year term
- Alderman – 2 positions from each ward 2 year term
- **Bethel Heights** – Wards 1, 2, and 3 Position 2 4 year term
- **Little Flock** – Wards 1, 2, and 3 Position 1 4 year term
Wards 1, 2, and 3 Position 2 2 year term

CITIES of the FIRST CLASS (under 50,000): BELLA VISTA, BENTONVILLE, CENTERTON, GENTRY, GRAVETTE, LOWELL, PEA RIDGE

- Alderman
 - Bella Vista Wards 1, 2, and 3 Position 1 4 year term
 - Bentonville Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 Positions 1 & 2 2 year term
 - Centerton Wards 1, 2, and 3 Positions 1 & 2 2 year term
 - Gentry Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 Position 1 4 year term
 - Lowell – Wards 1, 2, 3, and 4 Position 1 4 year term
 - Pea Ridge – Wards 1 and 2 Position 1 4 year term
 - Gravette – Wards 1, 2, and 3 Positions 1 & 2 2 year term

CITIES of the FIRST CLASS (over 50,000): ROGERS

- Mayor 4 year term
- City Clerk 4 year term
- Attorney (Will Run for 4 year term 2018) 2 year term
- Alderman
 - Wards 1, 2, 3 and 4 – Position 2 4 year term

NOTE: All cities of the **second class** and **incorporated towns** within the State of Arkansas may elect a **city attorney** at the time of the election of other officers of these cities of the second class and incorporated towns, if it is NOT established by ordinance that the office of the city attorney will be appointed. The **city attorney** in **second class** and **incorporated towns** must be a resident of the city. If no attorney resides in the city/town, they may **be appointed by the Mayor and City Council**.

If no resident attorney in **Cities of the First Class**, the city may contract with any licensed attorney of the state.

Petition of Nomination for Cities of the First and Second Class and Incorporated Towns
Alderman Candidates Elected at Large
(Pursuant to A.C.A. 14-42-206)

To: County Clerk of Benton County

We, the undersigned qualified electors of the city/town of _____, Arkansas, being in number not less than ten (10) for incorporated towns and cities of the second (2nd) class, and not less than thirty (30) for cities of the first (1st) class, do hereby petition that the name of _____, be placed on the ballot for the office of Alderman, Ward _____, Position _____, at the next election of municipal officials in **2016**. I have personally signed this petition; I am a legal voter of Benton County, Arkansas within the said city/town to be represented. My printed name, date of birth, residence, city/town of residence, and date of signing are correctly written after my signature.

	Signature	Printed Name	Date of Birth	Residence Address	City/Town of Residence	Date of Signing
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Petition of Nomination for Cities of the First and Second Class and Incorporated Towns

Municipal Candidates Except Aldermen

(Pursuant to A.C.A. 14-42-206)

To: County Clerk of Benton County

We, the undersigned qualified electors of the city/town of _____, Arkansas, being in number not less than ten (10) for incorporated towns and cities of the second (2nd) class, and not less than thirty (30) for cities of the first (1st) class, do hereby petition that the name of _____, be placed on the ballot for the office of _____, at the next election of municipal officials in 2016. I have personally signed this petition; I am a legal voter of Benton County, Arkansas within the said city/town to be represented. My printed name, date of birth, residence, city/town of residence, and date of signing are correctly written after my signature.

	Signature	Printed Name	Date of Birth	Residence Address	City/Town of Residence	Date of Signing
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