



ORDINANCE NO. 2019-03

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE STATEMENT OF INTENTION OF CANDIDACY FOR THE ELECTION OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL MEMBERS

WHEREAS, the City of Orangeburg presently requires candidates for the office of Mayor and Council to submit nominating petitions for the placement of a candidate's name on an election ballot, and

WHEREAS, City Council wishes to expedite the election process by eliminating the requirements for petitions and adopting in the place thereof only the requirement of a filing of a Statement of Intention of Candidacy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY COUNCIL DULY ASSEMBLED that Chapter II, Administration, Section 2-1.2, Election Procedure for Mayor and Council Members is hereby repealed in its entirety and the following section is hereby adopted;

"2-1.2 Election Procedure for Mayor and Council Members

- (a) The filing period for general elections in the City of Orangeburg shall commence at 12:00 noon on the fourth Monday of June and close at 12:00 noon on the second Monday of July.
- (b) A candidate seeking a municipal office must file with the Municipal Election Commission within the filing period as herein defined, a Statement of Intention of Candidacy, along with a filing fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) for a council seat or five hundred dollars (\$500.00) for the office of Mayor. A candidate filing for a seat on City Council must be a registered voter residing in the district for which he or she files, at the time of filing. A candidate for the office of Mayor must be a registered voter residing in the City of Orangeburg at the time of filing. The candidate shall offer proof of such residency as may be required by the Municipal Election Commission, at the time of filing. Upon the filing of a valid Statement of Intention of Candidacy, the Municipal Election Commission shall place the name of the candidate on the ballot.
- (c) In lieu of a candidate filing fee as set forth in subsection (b) above, the Municipal Election Commission shall accept the application of any indigent person if said application is accompanied by a notarized affidavit establishing the applicant's indigent status. For the purposes of this subsection,

an indigent person is defined as a person who has gross income less than the most recently published federal poverty guidelines published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and who has net assets, including any campaign contributions on hand, of less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00).”

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that Chapter XI, Elections, Section 11-2.2, Functions, Powers and Duties of the Election Commission, (b)(4) is amended and after amendment shall read as follows;

“4. Examine Statements of Intention of Candidacy for residency requirements and other requirements as may be required by City Ordinances and statutory law, declare validity of statements and place names of qualified nominees upon the ballot.”

Done and ratified in Council assembled this **4th** day of **June 2019**.

Michael C. Butler
Mayor

Arundel Haire

Douglas P. Quotts

L. Zimmerman

Richard J. Stern

Council members



ATTEST: Carrie [Signature]
City Clerk