

2020 Municipal Election Information for Candidates

The following is general information pertinent to the City Mayor/Council elections. This is not an all-inclusive list of all election laws and practices.

General Information:

Municipal elections will be held in the City of Rainbow City for the office of Mayor and five City Council positions on Tuesday, August 25, 2020. These are non-partisan, at-large elections. Candidates for Council positions must choose to run in either Place Number 1, Place Number 2, Place Number 3, Place Number 4, or Place Number 5. These Place numbers are for balloting purposes only and do not represent districts nor work area assignments.

A run-off election, if necessary, will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020 and the organizational meeting for the new administration will be held on Monday, November 2, 2020.

Poll hours are from 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

No person may become a candidate for more than one office to be filled at the election (§11-46-25(h), Code of Alabama)

No name may be preceded on a ballot by a title. A title may only be used when it is necessary to distinguish between two or more candidates with the same or similar names.

Electors (Voters) are not entitled to vote for any person whose name does not appear on the ballot, and no elector (Voter) shall write in the name of any person on the ballot. (§11-46-43, Code of Alabama)

Candidates may not accept, solicit, or receive campaign contributions more than twelve (12) months before an election in which the person intends to become a candidate. The first date contributions can be received for the 2020 municipal election is August 25, 2019. Campaign contributions may not be commingled with personal funds. A separate campaign fund must be established. If a candidate raises \$1,000 in campaign contributions with intent to become a candidate or expends \$1,000 with the intent to become a candidate, whether or not he or she has actually qualified for office, a campaign committee statement must be filed within five (5) days of reaching this threshold. The candidate may solicit contributions for a period of 120 days after the election in which the person was a candidate, but only to the extent of any campaign debt. Any contributions remaining in the account after all campaign debts are paid, may be donated to charity, to the State General Fund, Education Trust Fund, or to the equivalent county or municipal fund or used for expenses arising from their elected position. Surpluses may not be converted to personal funds. Personal funds contributed by the candidate to the campaign fund may not be reimbursed, however a loan made to the campaign fund by the candidate and properly reported on campaign finance disclosure, may be repaid.