

Section 2.3 Election and Term of Office.

- (a) *Election and Term of Office.* Except for the initial election and terms of office specified in Article VIII, each Councilmember and the Mayor shall be elected at-large for four year terms by the electors of the Town in the manner provided in Article V of this Charter. The four year term of office of persons holding office at the time of the initial transition to the County-wide election date provided by the amendment of Charter Section 5.1(c) shall result in a short extension of the term of office in order to coincide with that Section.
- (b) *Seats.* Councilmembers shall serve in seats numbered 1-6 collectively "Seats." Individually each is a "Seat." One Councilmember shall be elected to each Seat.
- (c) *Council To be Elected At-Large seats 1-6.* All Councilmembers shall be elected at-large and shall occupy Seats 1-6.
- (d) *Term of Office.* No person shall serve as Mayor or as a Councilmember for more than two (2) consecutive terms. Notwithstanding the above, if elected to a term of office prior to the 2010 election, the Mayor or Councilmembers may serve for a period of an additional two (2) terms, if re-elected, commencing at the conclusion of the term currently being served. If the Mayor or Councilmember is elected or appointed to fill a partial term in office as the result of a vacancy during a term of office pursuant to Section 2.5 of the Charter and the remainder of the term to which such person is elected or appointed is less than two years, then he or she may serve for two additional terms. If the term of said appointment or election to fill said vacancy is equal to or greater than two years, such person may serve one additional term.

Section 2.4 Qualifications.

Candidates for Councilmember or Mayor shall qualify for election by the filing of a written notice of candidacy with the Town Clerk at such time and in such manner as may be prescribed by ordinance ("Qualifying Date") and paying to the Town Clerk a qualifying fee of \$100.00, in addition to any fees required by Florida Statutes. A person may not be a candidate for Council and Mayor in the same election. Only electors of the Town who have resided continuously in the Town for at least two years preceding their Qualifying Date shall be eligible to hold the Office of Councilmember or Mayor.

Section 2.5 Vacancies; Forfeiture of Office; Filling of Vacancies.

- (a) *Vacancies.* The office of a Councilmember shall become vacant upon his/her death, resignation, disability, suspension or removal from office in any manner authorized by law, or by forfeiture of his/her office.
- (b) *Forfeiture of Office.*