

Ordinances Governing  
**MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**  
in the  
CITY OF ARLINGTON  
TEXAS

Amended by Ordinance No. 14-009  
(February 11, 2014)

(Chapter Designator: ELECTIONS)

**ORDINANCE HISTORY**

<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Date of Adoption</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
88-40	03/01/88	
92-30	03/17/92	Amend <b>Sections 4.01</b> and <b>4.04</b> , on early voting and election precincts.
93-95	09/14/93	Amend <b>Section 4.04</b> to add new precincts.
93-128	11/30/93	Amend <b>Section 4.04</b> , <u>Election Pre- cincts</u> , by the addition of new pre- cincts.
94-15	01/25/94	Amend <b>Section 2.03</b> , <u>Application in Lieu of Filing Fee</u> , setting forth procedures for filing an application signed by a percentage of qualified voters in single member districts and at-large districts in lieu of paying filing fee.
95-17	02/14/95	Addition of a new <b>Section 4.04</b> , <u>Temporary Signs Near Polling Places</u> , regulating the size of temporary signs near polling places.
<a href="#">02-032</a>	03/12/02	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Section 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , relative to dividing the City into election precincts.
<a href="#">04-080</a>	08/24/04	Amend <b>Article II</b> , <u>Candidates for Municipal Offices</u> , <b>Section 2.05</b> , <u>Time for Filing Application</u> , relative to application deadline; Amend <b>Article III</b> , <u>Official Ballots</u> , <b>Section 3.01</b> , <u>Posting of Names of Applicants</u> , relative to conformity with state law; Amend <b>Section 3.02</b> , <u>Printing of Ballots</u> , relative to the deletion of the ability to withdraw names from ballots; Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Subsection 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , relative to updating precincts; Amend <b>Subsection 4.06</b> , <u>Where to Vote</u> , relative to clarification of where to vote.
<a href="#">06-025</a>	03/14/06	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Subsection 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , relative to updating precincts.

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<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Date of Adoption</u></b>	<b><u>Comments</u></b>
<a href="#"><u>08-049</u></a>	06/17/08	Amend <b>Article VI</b> , <u>Notification of Persons Elected</u> , by repealing <b>Section 6.01</b> , <u>Notification</u> .
<a href="#"><u>10-033</u></a>	03/09/10	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Section 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , <b>Subsection (D)</b> , relative to updating Precinct No. 2031.
<a href="#"><u>10-108</u></a>	12/14/10	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Section 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , <b>Subsection (D)</b> , and by the addition of a new <b>Subsection (BB)</b> .
<a href="#"><u>11-007</u></a>	02/08/11	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Section 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , <b>Subsections (D), (N) and (AA)</b> , relative to updating precincts.
<a href="#"><u>12-012</u></a>	04/03/12	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , <b>Section 4.05</b> , <u>Election Precincts</u> , relative to updating precincts.
<a href="#"><u>14-009</u></a>	02/11/14	Amend <b>Article IV</b> , <u>Conducting Elections</u> , through the amendment of <b>Section 4.04</b> , <u>Temporary Signs Near Polling Places</u> .

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**ARTICLE I**  
**ORDERING OF MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

**Section 1.01 Authority for Ordering Election**

All elections pertaining to municipal affairs shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas governing elections and the Charter of the City of Arlington. In all City elections, the Mayor, City Secretary, or the governing body shall perform each act in other elections required to be done and performed respectively by the County Judge, the County Clerk, or the Commissioners Court. In all City elections, the City Council shall order the election, give notice and appoint election officers to hold the election. (Amend Ord 82-14, 2/16/82)

**ARTICLE II**

**CANDIDATES FOR MUNICIPAL OFFICES**

**Section 2.01 Eligibility of Candidates**

Any eligible and qualified person may have his name printed upon the official ballot as an independent candidate for the office of Mayor or member of the City Council by filing with the City Secretary a sworn application and filing fee or, in lieu of the filing fee, an application meeting the requirements established in Section 2.03 of this Article. (Amend Ord 87-07, 1/13/87)

**Section 2.02 Filing Fee**

A sworn application for a place on the official ballot shall be accompanied by cash, a certified or cashier's check, or postal money order in the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) payable to the City of Arlington. (Amend Ord 87-07, 1/13/87)

**Section 2.03 Application in Lieu of Filing Fee**

- A. Candidates For Mayor and Districts 6, 7 and 8 Which Are To Serve At-large Districts. In lieu of paying the filing fee, any candidate for Mayor or Districts 6, 7 or 8 may present an application signed by registered, qualified voters of the City of Arlington in a number equal to one-half of one percent (.5%) of the entire vote cast for Mayor by qualified voters of the City of Arlington in the most recent Mayoral election or by twenty-five (25) such qualified voters of the City of Arlington, whichever number is greater.
- B. Candidates for Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 Which Are To Serve Single Member Districts. In lieu of paying the filing fee, any candidate for Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 may present an application signed by registered, qualified voters of the district from which the office is sought in a number equal to one-half of one percent (.5%) of the entire vote cast for Mayor by qualified voters of that district in the most recent Mayoral election or by twenty-five (25) such qualified voters, whichever number is greater.

- C. Additional Requirements. In addition to the person's signature required in (A) and (B), above, this application shall show each signer's printed name, residence address, the date signed, the number of his voter registration certificate and precinct number. No person shall sign the application of more than one candidate for the same office. If such should occur, the name of such person shall not be counted on the application toward meeting the above voter requirements. Upon receipt of an application which conforms to the above requirements, the name of the candidate shall be printed upon the official ballot; provided that said candidate must have filed his "written consent to run" with the City Secretary at least forty-five (45) days prior to the election day. The "written consent" form may be obtained at the office of the City Secretary and shall conform with the requirements of the Election Code. (Amend Ord 94-15, 1/25/94)

**Section 2.04 Application for Place on Ballot**

The form of the sworn application required by Section 2.01 shall be that prescribed by the Secretary of State. The application form may be obtained at the office of the City Secretary. It shall state the specific office or place being sought by the applicant and that the applicant is eligible and qualified under the laws of the State of Texas and the Charter of the City of Arlington to become a candidate for and hold the office being sought, if elected. (Amend Ord 87-07, 1/13/87)

**Section 2.05 Time for Filing Application**

Except as may be otherwise provided by law, an application for a place on the ballot must be filed not later than 5:00 p.m. of the sixty-second (62nd) day before election day. An application may not be filed earlier than the 30th day before the date of the filing deadline. An application filed by mail is considered to be filed at the time of its receipt by the appropriate authority. (Amend Ord 04-080, 8/24/04)

**Section 2.06    Special Election - Filing Period for Application**

- A. A candidate's application for a place on a special election ballot must be filed not later than:
  - 1. 5:00 p.m. of the thirty first (31st) day before election day, if election day is on or after the thirty sixth (36th) day after the date the election is ordered; or
  - 2. 5:00 p.m. of a day fixed by City Council, which day must be not earlier than the fifth (5th) day after the date the election is ordered and not later than the twentieth (20th) day before election day, if election day is before the thirty-sixth (36th) day after the date the election is ordered.
- B. If a special election is to be held as an emergency election and a law outside the Texas Election Code prescribes a filing deadline, that deadline applies.
- C. The election order must state the filing deadline.
- D. An application may not be filed before the election is ordered.
- E. An application filed by mail is considered to be filed at the time of its receipt by the City Secretary. (Amend Ord 87-07, 1/13/87)

**ARTICLE III**

**OFFICIAL BALLOTS**

**Section 3.01 Posting of Names of Applicants**

The names of all those who have filed their sworn applications to have their names printed on the official ballot as candidates shall be available from the City Secretary upon request. All objections to the regularity or validity of the application of any person shall be made within five (5) days by written notice filed with the City Secretary, setting forth the grounds of objections. The City Secretary shall preserve in his/her office for a period of two (2) years, all applications, notice of objections, and other related papers. (Amend Ord 04-080, 8/24/04)

**Section 3.02 Printing of Ballots**

Any person eligible to the office of Mayor or City Council Member who has filed their sworn application in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance shall have their name printed on the official ballots. (Amend Ord 04-080, 8/24/04)

**Section 3.03 Optical Scanner**

As an alternate method for casting ballots at municipal elections, the City Council may, not less than thirty (30) days prior to such election, order the election to be conducted by the use of paper ballots which are optically scanned in conformity with the provisions of Chapter 122 of the Texas Election Code.

**ARTICLE IV**  
**CONDUCTING ELECTIONS**

**Section 4.01 Early Voting**

Each qualified voter who desires to cast an absentee vote and who expects to be absent from the county on the day of the City general election, or who meets the requirements of Chapter 82 of the Texas Election Code, shall be entitled to an official ballot and the right to cast such ballot in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code. (Amend Ord 92-30, 3/17/92)

**Section 4.02 Place for Holding Election**

In all cases where it is practical so to do, every election shall be held in some school house, fire station or other public building within the limits of the election precinct in which such election is being held. If there be no public building so available, such election may be held in some other building. (Amend Ord 1192, 1/21/58)

**Section 4.03 Molesting Voters**

It is unlawful for any person in his own behalf or in the behalf of another, within one hundred feet (100') of any polling place within the City of Arlington, on the day of holding any general, special or primary election, to in anywise molest any voter, either by personal appeal or solicitation, or by giving to such voter any written or printed matter designed or intended to influence such voter in the marking of his ballot and the casting of his vote for or against any particular candidate or measure to be voted upon at such election. (Code of 1920)

**Section 4.04 Temporary Signs Near Polling Places**

- A. No temporary sign shall be placed, erected, constructed or maintained at a size greater than six (6) square feet nor at a height greater than eight (8) feet in the area within the property lines of the property in which a polling place is located during the voting period, except as otherwise provided by state law. "Voting period" means the period beginning when a poll opens for early voting and election day

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voting and ending when the poll closes or the last voter has voted, whichever is later. Signs shall not be located in City right-of-way.

- B. During the voting period, the placement of temporary signs at the polling place located within the Bob Duncan Center shall be limited to a designated area within the property lines of the Bob Duncan Center provided:
1. the designated area shall be a minimum of 1,500 square feet;
  2. the designated area shall be located near or adjacent to a polling place entry or parking area such that temporary signage is visible to voters accessing the polling place;
  3. signage and other available means shall clearly delineate the boundary of the designated area; and
  4. a map delineating the boundary of the designated area is available in the City Secretary's Office.

In no event may any portion of the designated area be located within 100 feet of an outside door through which a voter may enter the building in which the polling place is located. No sign shall be installed, erected or constructed outside the designated area meeting the above criteria.

- C. A sign which is installed, erected or constructed in violation of this section is subject to removal and disposal without prior notice to the owner of such sign. (Amend Ord 14-009, 2/11/14)

### **Section 4.05 Election Precincts**

The City is hereby divided into election precincts, numbered and described as follows:

- A. Precinct No. 2003: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2003 and 2217, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- B. Precinct No. 2027: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2002, 2027, 2235, 2320, 2569 and 2659, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.

- C. Precinct No. 2028: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2007, 2028, 2358, 2505 and 2521, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- D. Precinct No. 2031: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2031, 2613 and 2635, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- E. Precinct No. 2055: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 1380, 1463, 1564 1631, 2055, and 2281, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- F. Precinct No. 2161: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2052 and 2161, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- G. Precinct No. 2168: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2143, 2147 and 2168, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- H. Precinct No. 2169: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2134, 2169, 2263, 2302, 2381, 2428, 2461 and 2675, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- I. Precinct No. 2171: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 1489, 1514, 1605, 2171, 2280, 2303, 2310 and 2606, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- J. Precinct No. 2190: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2026, 2148, 2190, 2655, 2656, 2657 and 2670, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- K. Precinct No. 2205: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2058, 2181 and 2205, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- L. Precinct No. 2226: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2226, 2268, 2269, 2393, 2403, 2513 and 2658, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.

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- M. Precinct No. 2228: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 1420, 1607, 2228, 2246 and 2317, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- N. Precinct No. 2306: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2029, 2306 and 2506, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- O. Precinct No. 2309: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2100, 2145, 2210, 2309, 2660 and 2673, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- P. Precinct No. 2314: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2313, 2314 and 2468, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- Q. Precinct No. 2316: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 1441, 1442, 2224, 2315 and 2316, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- R. Precinct No. 2318: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2174, 2229, 2267, 2318, 2401 and 2451, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- S. Precinct No. 2319: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2220, 2266, 2319 and 2464, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- T. Precinct No. 2354: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2354, 2438, 2449, and 2523, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- U. Precinct No. 2383: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2383 and 2541, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- V. Precinct No. 2448: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2353, 2448 and 2450, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.

- W. Precinct No. 2462: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2030, 2341, 2405, 2462, 2525 and 2581, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- X. Precinct No. 2519: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2304, 2356, 2519 and 2553, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- Y. Precinct No. 2522: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2262, 2307, 2357, 2522 and 2535, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- Z. Precinct No. 2536: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2225, 2274, 2402, 2467, 2536, 2537, 2561 and 2571, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- AA. Precinct No. 2556: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 1211, 1610, 2173, 2219, 2305, 2425, 2474, 2520, 2556, 2601 and 2609, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington.
- BB. Precinct No. 2557: This election precinct shall include those portions of Tarrant County Election Precincts No. 2557 and 2645, lying within the corporate limits of the City of Arlington. (Amend Ord 12-012, 4/3/12)

#### **Section 4.06 Where to Vote**

On election day all voters shall vote in the City election precinct in which they reside or such location designated by the Election Official. During early voting, voters may vote at any early voting polling location. (Amend Ord 04-080, 8/24/04)

**ARTICLE V**  
**PROCLAMATIONS**

**Section 5.01 Publishing Proclamations**

The City Secretary shall cause to be published in some daily or weekly newspaper published in the City of Arlington a properly executed copy of the election proclamation and notice as prescribed by State law. (Amend Ord 84-28, 2-7-84)