



## City Council Agenda Item

**City Council Meeting Date:** June 2, 2020

**TO:** Jim Throop, City Manager

**FROM:** Stacey Haddon, City Clerk  
s\_haddon@ci.lompoc.ca.us

**SUBJECT:** Notice of General Municipal Election on November 3, 2020; Request to Board of Supervisors to Consolidate the Election; Adoption of City Council Policy Requiring Payment of Costs and Deposits for Candidate Statements

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### **Recommendation:**

Staff recommends the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Adopt the following Resolutions pertaining to the November 3, 2020, election for Mayor and two Council Members:
  - a. Resolution No. 6333(20), Calling and Giving Notice of the Holding of a General Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, for the election of Mayor and two Council Members (Attachment 1);
  - b. Resolution No. 6334(20), Requesting the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara (County) to Consolidate a General Municipal Election of the City of Lompoc to be held on November 3, 2020 with services to be provided by the County (Attachment 2);
  - c. Resolution No. 6335(20), Adopting Regulations for Candidates for Elective Office, Pertaining to Payment of Costs and Deposits for Candidate Statements for the Consolidated General Municipal Election (Attachment 3) (each candidate filing a Candidate's Statement will be required to pay a deposit and comply with the 200-word limit on Candidates' Statements of Qualifications); and
- 2) Direct the City Clerk to file one original and seven copies of Resolution No. 6334(20) with the Clerk of the Board Supervisors, requesting consolidation with the County for the November 3, 2020, General Municipal Election, before the August 6, 2020, deadline.

### **Background:**

For many years, the City has engaged the services of the County Elections Department to conduct a consolidated election for the Mayor and Members of the City Council.

Resolution Nos. 6333(20) and 6334(20) pertain to the notice of the 2020 Election and request the County's services for conducting that election.

As noted on the Election Calendar (Attachment 4), the filing period for nomination papers and Candidate's Statements is Monday, July 13, through Friday, August 7, 2020. If an incumbent does not file for reelection, then the filing period for that office will be extended to Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

**Discussion:**

The terms for Mayor Osborne and Council Members Cordova (District 1) and Mosby (District 4) expire this year. The Consolidated General Municipal Election will be held in the City on November 3, 2020, for the purpose of electing a Mayor for a full term of two years; and two members of the City Council for the full terms of four years each.

**Candidate's Statements**

Section 13307 of the Elections Code of the State of California allows the City Council to adopt regulations as stated in Resolution No. 6335(20), pertaining to handling, packaging and mailing of a Candidate Statement, including the cost thereof, prepared by any candidate, to be included in the voters' pamphlet. Each candidate who wishes to have a Candidate Statement published in the voters' pamphlet will be required to pay a deposit in advance to the City.

Since 1986, the City Council has directed the City Clerk to estimate the total costs of printing, handling, and translating the Candidate's Statements, pursuant to the Elections Code, and require each candidate filing a statement to pay, in advance, a pro rata share as a condition of having that statement included in the voters' pamphlet. The City Clerk is then directed to bill each candidate a pro rata share of any costs in excess of the total deposited, or refund a pro rata share of any credit balance remaining, within 30 days following the general election.

Table 1 indicates costs for printing candidates' statements in the past.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Deposit</b>	<b>Actual Cost for Mayor</b>	<b>Actual Cost for Council Member</b>	<b>Refunds to Candidates</b>
2010	\$900.00	\$269.48	\$269.48	\$630.52-Mayor \$630.52-Council Member
2012	\$900.00	\$633.03	\$284.17	\$266.97-Mayor \$615.83-Council Member
2014	\$900.00	\$302.50	\$276.40	\$597.50-Mayor \$626.60-Council Member
2016	\$800.00	\$326.11	\$247.51	\$476.89-Mayor \$552.49-Council Member
2018	\$800.00	\$649.77	\$277.02	\$150.23-Mayor \$522.98-Council Member

Table 1 – Costs for Printing Candidates Statements

**Fiscal Impact:**

The City Clerk's Office has budgeted appropriations of \$23,000 in Account 110CCE-534150 – Clerk – Elections – County Contract approved as part of the Biennial Budget Fiscal Years 2019-2021 for anticipated costs to be paid to the County Clerk-Recorder for the November 3, 2020, Consolidated General Municipal Election. With the recent change of at-large elections to district-based elections, it is very likely the costs for the Consolidated General Municipal Election may exceed the budgeted appropriations. Table 2 contains a summary of costs incurred for previous elections:

Year	City's Election Costs	Ballots Cast	Registered Voters	Cost per Registered Voter
2006	\$10,553.86	7,151	13,676	\$0.77
2008	\$19,091.69	11,821	15,310	\$1.25
2010	\$9,852.89	8,839	14,892	\$0.66
2012	\$17,174.06	10,632	14,933	\$1.15
2014	\$11,324.00	7,623	14,506	\$0.78
2016	\$19,097.16	12,541	17,131	\$1.11
2018	\$17,258.49	10,468	17,005	\$1.01

Table 2 – Costs of Previous City Elections

**Conclusion:**

With the adoption of Resolution Nos. 6333(20), 6334(20) , and 6335(20) ,the City will have taken the steps necessary to minimize the fiscal impact of the municipal elections by the consolidation of our elections with those of the County.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stacey Haddon, City Clerk

**APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL:**

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Jim Throop, City Manager

- Attachments: 1) Resolution No. 6333(20)  
2) Resolution No. 6334(20)  
3) Resolution No. 6335(20)  
4) Election Calendar