



## City Council Agenda Item

**City Council Meeting Date:** June 4, 2024

**TO:** Dean Albro, City Manager

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

**SUBJECT:** Adoption of Resolutions to Call and Give Notice of the General Municipal Election on November 5, 2024, Request to Board of Supervisors to Consolidate the Election, and 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 5, 2024, election for Mayor and two Council Members:
  - a. Resolution No. 6658(24), Calling and Giving Notice of the Holding of a General Municipal Election on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the election of Mayor and two Council Members (Attachment 1);
  - b. Resolution No. 6659(24), 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 5, 2024, with the statewide general election on that same date and request the County's services for conducting the General Municipal Election (Attachment 2);
  - c. Resolution No. 6660(24), 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 Resolution No. 6659(24), with the Clerk of the Board Supervisors, requesting consolidation with the County for the November 5, 2024, General Municipal Election, before the July 3, 2024, 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. 6658(24), and 6659(24), pertain to the notice of the 2024 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 15, through Friday, August 9, 2024. If an incumbent does not file for reelection, then the filing period for that office will be extended to Wednesday, August 14, 2024.

**Discussion:**

The terms for Mayor Osborne and Council Members Cordova (District 1) and Ball (District 4) expire this year. The Consolidated General Municipal Election will be held in the City on November 5, 2024, 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. 6660(24), 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>
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

Year	Deposit	Actual Cost for Mayor	Actual Cost for Council Member	Refunds to Candidates
2020	\$800.00	\$444.15	\$222.08 – District 4 \$463.59 – District 1	\$305.76 – Mayor \$577.92 – District 4 - CM \$336.41 – District 1 - CM
2022	\$800.00	\$427.71	\$299.33 – District 3	\$372.29 – Mayor \$500.67 – District 3 - CM

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 (FY) 2024-25 for anticipated costs to be paid to the County Clerk-Recorder for the November 5, 2024, 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
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
March 2020 Presidential Primary 2020 1% Sales & Use Tax	\$41,471.13	8,544	17,814	\$2.33
November 2020	\$37,188.30	22,208	19,147	\$1.94
September 2021 CA Governorial Recall Election Revisions to Cannabis Tax	\$38,685.81	10,633	19,698	\$1.96
November 2022	\$35,051.14	9,357	19,643	\$1.78

Table 2 – Costs of Previous City Elections

**Conclusion:**

With the adoption of Resolution Nos. 6658(24), 6659(24), and 6660(24), the City will have taken the steps necessary to minimize the fiscal impact of the municipal elections by the consolidation of the City’s elections with those of the County.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Stacey Haddon, City Clerk

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

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Dean Albro, City Manager

Attachments: 1) Resolution No. 6658(24)  
2) Resolution No. 6659(24)  
3) Resolution No. 6660(24)