

ORDINANCE NO. 957

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO elections; petition, write-in, and other candidates for general election ballot; procedures; changing threshold from 20% to 10% for placing a candidate on a partisan ballot; to harmonize with state law; to repeal conflicting ordinances and sections; and to provide an effective date.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF GOTHENBURG , NEBRASKA:

Section 1. The City of Gothenburg's Code of Ordinances is revised to read as follows regarding elections:

**PETITION, WRITE-IN, AND OTHER CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT; PROCEDURES.**

(A.) (1) Any registered voter who was not a candidate in the primary election and who was not registered to vote with a party affiliation on or after March 1 and before the general election in the calendar year of the general election may have his or her name placed on the general election ballot for a partisan office by filing petitions as prescribed in this section and Neb. RS 32-621 or by nomination by political party convention or committee pursuant to Neb. RS 32-627 or 32-710.

(2) Any candidate who was defeated in the primary election and any registered voter who was not a candidate in the primary election may have his or her name placed on the general election ballot if a vacancy exists on the ballot under Neb. RS 32-625(2) and the candidate files for the office by petition as prescribed in divisions (B) and (C) of this section, files as a write-in candidate as prescribed in Neb. RS 32-615, or is nominated by political party convention or committee pursuant to Neb. RS 32-710.

(Neb. RS 32-616)

(B) Petitions for nomination shall conform to the requirements of Neb. RS 32-628. Petitions shall state the office to be filled and the name and address of the candidate. Petitions for partisan office shall also indicate the party affiliation of the candidate. A sample copy of the petition shall be filed with the filing officer prior to circulation. Petitions shall be signed by registered voters residing in the city, if candidates are chosen at large, or in the ward in which the officer is to be elected, if candidates are chosen by ward, and shall be filed with the filing officer in the same manner as provided for candidate filing forms in Neb. RS 32-606. Petition signers and petition circulators shall conform to the requirements of Neb. RS 32-629 and 32-630. No petition for nomination shall be filed unless there is attached thereto a receipt showing the payment of the filing fee required pursuant to Neb. RS 32-608. The petitions shall be filed by September 1 in the year of the general election.

(Neb. RS 32-617)

(C) (1) The number of signatures of registered voters needed to place the name of a candidate upon the nonpartisan ballot for the general election shall be at least 10% of the total number of registered voters voting for Governor or President of the United States at the immediately preceding general election in the (city/village) or in the ward in which the officer is to be elected, not to exceed 2,000.

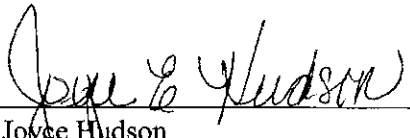
(2) The number of signatures of registered voters needed to place the name of a

candidate for an office upon the partisan ballot for the general election shall be at least 10% of the registered voters entitled to vote for the office.  
(Neb. RS 32-618)

Section 2. Any other ordinance or code section passed and approved prior to passage, approval, and publication or posting of this ordinance and in conflict with its provisions is repealed.

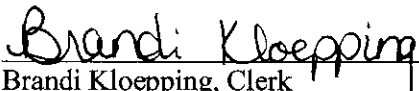
Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage, approval, and publication or posting as required by law.

Passed and approved this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017

  
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Mayor, Joyce Hudson

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

  
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Brandi Kloepping, Clerk