

CITY OF LAKE WALES CHARTER AMENDMENT – ORDINANCE 2011-01

AMENDMENT: 11

TITLE: MAYOR WILL BE ELECTED BY VOTERS TO AT-LARGE SEAT FOR 4-YEAR TERM

SUMMARY: Effective with the 2013 election, the mayor will be elected by the entire city to the “at-large” seat for a four-year term as are the other commissioners. Any registered city voter is eligible to run for the position. A sitting commissioner deciding to run for mayor will be subject to the resign to run law, thereby creating a vacancy for that candidate’s unexpired commission term which will be filled as described in the amendment.

TEXT: Sec. 3.05 . Election of mayor.

~~The electors of the city shall annually at each regular municipal election elect a commission member to serve as mayor. Commission members holding seats not up for election shall be eligible as candidates and shall qualify as a candidate in accordance with the Municipal Election Code. The commission member receiving the highest number of votes cast shall serve as mayor. If no eligible commissioner qualifies as a candidate, the commission shall at its first meeting in October elect by majority vote one (1) of its members to be mayor of the city for the ensuing year.~~

- (a) The voters of the City shall elect a mayor at large for a term of four years who shall be elected to commission seat one. The commission shall elect from among its members a deputy mayor who shall act as mayor during the absence or disability of the mayor and, if a vacancy occurs, shall become mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term. The vacancy created by the deputy mayor shall be filled in accordance with section 3.08(a).
- (b) Any commissioner or other qualified elector of the city shall be entitled to run for mayor. Whether elected or not, a commissioner who runs for mayor shall lose his commission seat effective the day of election. A commissioner seeking to run for mayor, shall give notice of intent not less than forty-five days prior to the first day of the qualifying period to allow time for notice of election, candidate qualification, and placement of the election on the ballot for the seat to be vacated, thereby eliminating the need for a special election. The candidate elected to fill the vacated seat shall serve for the remainder of the term.

[Words **stricken** are deletions; words **underlined** are additions.]