

CITY OF SPRINGFIELD

ORDINANCE NO. 516

AN ORDINANCE OF THE SPRINGFIELD CITY COMMISSION AMENDING THE SPRINGFIELD CODE OF ORDINANCES, SECTION 22-6, REGARDING QUALIFYING PETITIONS AND SECTION 22-7 REGARDING QUALIFYING FEES FOR CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article VIII, Section 2 of the Florida Constitution, and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, the City of Springfield, Florida (hereinafter "City") is authorized to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents and has the power and the authority to enact ordinances and regulations for valid governmental purposes that are not inconsistent with general or special law; and

WHEREAS, section 166.021, Florida Statutes, secures broad exercise of home rule powers for the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission of the City of Springfield, Florida finds it to be in the best interests of the people of the City of Springfield to allow qualifying petitions in lieu of a qualifying fee to allow more citizens to become candidates for the offices of city commissioner and mayor;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED by the people of the City of Springfield, Florida that:

SECTION 1. SECTION 22-6, of the Springfield Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows: (deleted text ~~stricken~~; added text underlined)

Sec. 22-6. Qualifying petitions.

Candidates for office of city commissioner shall file a qualifying petition signed by not less than 15 qualified voters of the ward from which he or she is a candidate, and candidates for office of mayor-~~commissioner~~ shall file a qualifying petition signed by not less than 30 qualified voters of the city.

Qualifying petitions must be filed with the ~~city clerk not less than 15 days prior to the date of election~~ Bay County Supervisor of Elections within the time set forth in accordance with the State Election Code.

SECTION 2. SECTION 22-7 of the Springfield Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows: (deleted text ~~stricken~~; added text underlined)

Sec. 22-7. Qualifying fees.

Candidates for the offices of city commissioner and mayor-~~commissioner~~ shall pay to the city a qualifying fee in an amount equal to five percent of the annual compensation provided for the office for which the candidate is seeking to qualify. The fee shall be paid at the time the candidate files the required qualifying petition. Should the candidate fail to qualify, then the fee shall be refunded to him or her in full.

As an alternative to the qualifying fee, a person who seeks to qualify as a candidate for city commissioner or mayor who meets the following additional petition requirements is not required to pay the qualifying fee required by this section:

In addition to the qualifying petition signatures required by Section 22-6 of this Code, a candidate for office of city commissioner must obtain 35 additional signatures of voters of the city to avoid the fee. A candidate for mayor must obtain 20 additional signatures of voters of the city to avoid the fee. These signatures are in addition to the petition signatures required by Section 22-6 of this Code.

The format of the petition shall be prescribed by the State Division of Elections and shall be used by candidates to reproduce petitions for circulation.

Each petition must be submitted to the Bay County Supervisor of Elections within the time set forth in accordance with the State Election Code.


SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable; and if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or provision is held invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 4. REPEALER. All ordinances, resolution or parts thereof, including but not limited to Chapter 27900, Laws of Florida (1951), as amended (which became a City ordinance pursuant to and upon enactment of Section 166.021(5), Florida Statutes), which are inconsistent or in conflict herewith are hereby repealed and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Ordinance shall be in force and take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption by the City Commission.

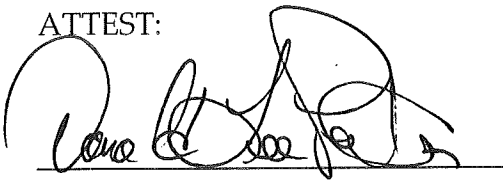
DULY PASSED AND ENACTED by the City Commission of the City of Springfield, Florida this 21st day of January, 2014.

CITY COMMISSION OF THE
CITY OF SPRINGFIELD,
FLORIDA



Ralph Hammond, Mayor

ATTEST:



Donald Lee Penton, City Clerk