

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 1017

Short Title: Even-Yr. Elections/City of Jacksonville. (Local)

Sponsors: Representatives Cleveland and Shepard (Primary Sponsors).

*For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.*

Referred to: Local Government, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

May 6, 2024

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE SHALL BE HELD IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article II of the Charter of the City of Jacksonville, being Chapter 911 of the Session Laws of 1967, as amended by Town Ordinance No. 89-21 adopted on 4-26-89 and Ordinance No. 06-59 adopted on 11-21-06, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 2-1. Composition. The officers of ~~said~~the city shall consist of a mayor and six councilmembers to be elected as set out in section 2-8 by the qualified voters of ~~said~~the city biennially on the Tuesday following the first Monday in November in each of the ~~odd-numbered~~even-numbered years.

...

"Sec. 2-8. Election of Mayor and Council – Generally. At a regular election to be held by the Onslow County Board of Elections on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November, there shall be elected a mayor and six ~~councilmembers~~, councilmembers to serve staggered four-year terms, all of whom shall reside within the city and who shall run and be elected in the following manner: Two of the councilmembers shall run at large and four of the councilmembers shall be elected from the wards established by the City of Jacksonville under this ordinance and map published herewith or as such wards may hereafter be constituted, and there shall be elected only one councilmember from each ward who shall be a resident of the ward for which he is elected and shall be voted on by the qualified voters of such ward. ~~The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for the office of councilmember from the ward of his residence shall be declared elected to that office. The two candidates running at large shall be voted on by all qualified voters of the city and the two candidates running at large who receive the highest number of votes for the office of councilmember shall be declared elected to that office. The candidate for mayor shall be elected by the electors of the city at large. The candidate receiving the highest number of votes for the office of mayor shall be declared elected mayor.~~

~~Effective December 27, 2006, at the next regular municipal election following pre clearance of this Charter Amendment by the Department of Justice, if said pre clearance occurs on or before the last day of the filing period for said election, the candidates receiving the highest number of votes for the Office of Mayor and the candidates receiving the highest number of votes for Ward 3 and Ward 4 (minority ward) Council Members shall be elected for an initial four (4) year term; and the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes for At Large Council Members and the candidates receiving the highest number of votes for Ward~~



1 ~~1 (minority ward) and Ward 2 Council Members shall be elected for an initial two (2) year~~  
2 ~~term. Subsequent elections for the Mayor and all City Council Members shall be for four year~~  
3 ~~terms and until their successors are elected and qualified. In 2026, and quadrennially thereafter,~~  
4 ~~two at-large members, a member for Ward 1 (minority ward), and a member for Ward 2 shall~~  
5 ~~be elected to each serve a four-year term. In 2028, and quadrennially thereafter, a mayor, a~~  
6 ~~member for Ward 3, and a member for Ward 4 (minority ward) shall be elected to each serve~~  
7 ~~a four-year term.~~

8 ...."

9 **SECTION 2.** Section 8-1 of the Charter of the City of Jacksonville, being Chapter  
10 911 of the Session Laws of 1967, reads as rewritten:

11 "Sec. 8-1. – When held. All regular elections shall be held biennially in the ~~odd~~even years  
12 on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Each regular election for the city shall be  
13 held in accordance with this Act and the General Statutes of North Carolina."

14 **SECTION 3.** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of Jacksonville  
15 in 2025. The terms of office for the two at-large council members and the council members for  
16 Ward 1 and Ward 2 serving on the effective date of this act whose terms are set to expire in 2025  
17 shall be extended by one year. The terms of office for the mayor and council members for Ward  
18 3 and Ward 4 serving on the effective date of this act whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall  
19 be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of  
20 Jacksonville in 2026.

21 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held  
22 on or after that date.