

Chapter 62

VOTING

[HISTORY: Adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Callahan as indicated in article histories. Amendments noted where applicable.]

ARTICLE I

Voter Registration

[Adopted 12-6-1971 by Ord. No. 7-1971]

§ 62-1. Permanent single registration system established.

A permanent registration system for the registration of the electors of said town to qualify them to vote in all elections of the town is hereby established and provided. This system shall be established on or before January 1, 1972. Prior to the established date of this system, the Town Clerk be and he is hereby authorized and directed to purchase all necessary equipment and materials as he in his judgment may deem necessary and advisable to put said system into operation. An elector shall be registered in pursuance of this system by the Town Clerk of said town and shall not thereafter be required to register or reregister except as provided by this article or by any subsequent ordinance.

§ 62-2. Permanent registration books; when open and closed.

- A. The permanent registration books shall be kept open each regular business weekday in the office of the Town Clerk of said town only during regular office hours.
- B. The books shall close fifteen (15) days immediately prior to and next preceding any election held in and by said town, after which they shall be open for permanent registration in the manner as herein provided.

§ 62-3. Form of registration certificates.

Registration certificates issued to electors registering under this permanent registration system are of the form provided for hereinafter.

§ 62-4. Duty of elector to record change in registration.

It is the duty of electors under this permanent registration system to notify the Clerk in person of any changes in his record with reference to name by marriage or other legal process.

§ 62-5. Procedure for removal of names from registration books.

On or before December 1, 1975, and on or before each four-year anniversary of such date, the Town Clerk shall mail to each registered elector in the town at the last known address as shown upon the official registration books a form to be filled in, signed and returned by mail, within

thirty (30) days after the notice is postmarked. The form returned shall advise the Town Clerk whether the elector's status has changed from that of the registration record. Names of electors failing to return the forms within such thirty-day period of time shall have their names withdrawn to temporarily from the registration book. The Town Clerk shall publish one (1) time in any newspaper published in the town the names and last known addresses as shown on the registration books of all registered electors who have not returned said form properly filled out and signed, said list of names shall be published not later than January 31 following the return date of the mailing of the notices. Names will be restored to the registration records when the elector in person makes known to the Town Clerk that his status has not changed. The Town Clerk is then required to reinstate the names on the registration books at any time the registration books are officially open without the elector reregistering. Notice of these requirements shall be printed on the registration certificates. Such reinstatement of the names shall not be considered registration but a method to be used for keeping the permanent registration list up to date.

§ 62-6. Specifications for permanent registration binders, files and forms.

In this system, visible record binders, files and registration forms are used as registration books. The binders shall be visible record binders, metal bound with built-in shifts, to hold executed registration forms, with label holders and followers for sheet protection as necessary. The registration form shall consist of duplicates, both to be signed by the registrant. One (1) of the original executed forms shall be used for the poll binders, which binders shall have a built-in lock to protect the forms. The poll binders are divided in a manner convenient for electors to vote. The other original form shall be used for the office copies and arranged alphabetically, in suitable filing cabinets, thus providing a master list of all electors in the town. The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to modify these specifications as in his judgment he may deem necessary or advisable and to purchase such additional equipment and materials as he may deem meet, necessary or requisite.

§ 62-7. Town Clerk to prescribe registration form; information required.

- A. The Town Clerk shall prescribe the registration form, and the form shall be prepared to list the following information.
- (1) Registration number.
 - (2) Date of registration.
 - (3) Full name.
 - (4) Sex.
 - (5) Political affiliation.
 - (6) Business or occupation.
 - (7) Date of birth.
 - (8) Age.
 - (9) Color.

- (10) State or country of birth.
 - (11) If naturalized, the time, place and court of naturalization as evidenced by legal proof.
 - (12) The post office address at time of registering, the same to be entered with as specific particularity as possible.
 - (13) The fact of whether the registrant is able to write his name or mark his ballot, and if not, the nature of the disability.
 - (14) Whether such registrant has been convicted of any felony, and if so, have his civil rights been restored.
 - (15) Other information deemed necessary by the Clerk.
- B. There shall also be printed on the form an affidavit to comply with all provisions of the Florida Constitution, or as it may hereafter be amended, and a statement that all the information on the form is true.

§ 62-8. Preservation of certain registration forms.

When names of registrants are removed from books, their executed registration forms shall be attached together and filed alphabetically in the office of the Town Clerk.

§ 62-9. Town Clerk to be custodian of registration books.

The Town Clerk of the Town of Callahan, Florida, is the official custodian of the books of registration with the exclusive control of matters pertaining to the registration of electors. Whenever it shall come to his knowledge that any elector has died or has become disqualified to vote by reason of conviction of any disqualifying crime or from other causes or has removed from the town or his right to vote has become affected since his registration, the Town Clerk shall make a note on the books opposite the elector's name and mark off the name by running a pen through it and note the date of erasure, and no election official shall allow such person to vote, whether the person has a certificate or not, unless he exhibits to the election officials a certificate signed by the Town Clerk showing that he has been restored to the books subsequent to the date of erasure. That the authority to purge the registration books as herein set forth is hereby assumed by virtue of this article and the preamble hereof. The Town Clerk may, at any time, process and forward to any elector a post or renewal card to verify the qualifications of an elector and, on the nonreturn of such card within the prescribed time set herein, shall proceed as otherwise provided for herein for nonreturns.

§ 62-10. Books open to inspection.

The registration books are public records. Every citizen is allowed to examine the registration books in the custody of the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk may furnish a certified list of registered voters and may charge a reasonable fee therefor.

§ 62-11. Town Clerk to furnish inspectors and clerks of election registration books.

The Town Clerk shall furnish inspectors and clerks of elections with one (1) of the registration

books for each polling place, and he is not authorized prior to any election to furnish the books or allow indiscriminate handling or examination thereof by anyone, but he shall at all times allow any elector to examine his own status upon the books.

§ 62-12. Town Clerk to deliver books and papers to successor.

The Town Clerk shall, upon his removal from office, deliver to his successor immediately all books, papers and blanks belonging to his office connected with registration and elections.

§ 62-13. Restoration of names to registration books.

When the name of any elector has been wrongfully or erroneously erased or removed from the registration books, the name of the elector shall be restored by the Town Clerk on application and proof to him, or restored by order of the Town Council, if the Town Clerk fails to do so.

§ 62-14. Deputy registrars.

The Town Clerk may appoint, subject to removal by him, one (1) or more qualified electors to act as deputy registrars. Each deputy registrar shall have all of the power and authority herein vested in the Town Clerk.

§ 62-15. Qualified electors permitted to vote in 1971.

Any qualified elector otherwise qualified to vote who presents himself at the polls at any election to be held during the year 1971, and upon oath properly and duly made appears to the election officials to be qualified and whose name appears as a qualified elector in the old list of voters representing the list of qualified electors in use immediately preceding and prior to the establishment of this article, shall be permitted to vote in any election held in 1971, provided that he is otherwise qualified, but shall be required to be reregistered before being entitled to vote in any election held subsequent to the year 1971.

§ 62-16. Prior registrations to be null and void.

All registrations of voters heretofore had in said Town of Callahan shall be null and void and of no effect on and after January 1, 1972, except as herein provided.

§ 62-17. Persons in the military service of the United States of America exempt.

All persons inducted into the Military Service of the United States of America and remaining in such service during the period when the registration books of said Town of Callahan, Florida, are open for the registration and reregistration of electors shall be exempt from the operation of this article requiring registration or reregistration as a prerequisite to the right to vote in any primary, general or special election, provided that such person has been duly registered as an elector during any previous registration period and his name has not been removed from the registration lists according to law; no person entitled to the exemption provided for in this section shall be deprived of the right to vote in any primary, general or special election because of failure or omission to register or reregister, but the officials of any election may require reasonable proof of the person's military service as a ground for such exemption.

§ 62-18. Construal.

this article shall be liberally construed.

ARTICLE II

Early Voting

[Adopted 8-22-2005 by Ord. No. 8-O-2005]

§ 62-19. Early voting prohibited at Callahan Town Hall.

Early voting pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 101.657 for elected offices of the Town of Callahan shall not take place at Callahan Town Hall.

§ 62-20. Notification to Nassau County Supervisor of Elections.

The Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to take all necessary actions to notify the Nassau County Supervisor of Elections that early voting will not take place.