

filed with the clerk-treasurer at least twenty-one (21) days before the date of the next Town election.

Section 54-24. Election of Mayor and Councilmen.

On the first Monday in May in every even numbered year, the qualified voters of the Town shall elect one person as Mayor and two persons as Councilmen to serve for terms of two years; on the first Monday in May in every odd numbered year the qualified voters of the Town shall elect three persons as Councilmen to serve for terms of two years. The newly elected Mayor and Councilmen shall take office as soon after the election as qualified. Vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of Section 13.

Section 54-25. Conduct of Elections Generally.

It is the duty of the judges of elections to provide for each special and general election a suitable place or places for voting and suitable ballot boxes and ballots and/or voting machines. The ballots and/or voting machines shall show the name of each candidate nominated for elective office in accordance with the provisions of this charter, arranged in alphabetical order for each office with no party designation of any kind. The judges of election shall keep the polls open from 7:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. on election days or for longer hours if the council requires it.

Section 54-26. Vote Count.

Within twenty-four hours after the closing of the polls, the judges of elections shall determine the vote cast for each candidate or question and shall certify the results of the election to the clerk-treasurer of the Town, who shall record the results in the minutes of the council. The candidate for mayor with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as mayor. The two candidates for councilman (three in odd-numbered years) with the highest number of votes in the general election shall be declared elected as councilmen.

Section 54-27. Preservation of Ballots.

All ballots used in any Town election shall be preserved for at least six months from the date of election.

Section 54-28. Regulation and Control by Council.

The council has the power to provide by ordinance in every respect not covered by the provisions of this charter for the conduct of registration; nomination; Town elections; the content of the ballot; and for the prevention of fraud in connection therewith, and for a recount of ballots in case of doubt or fraud.

FINANCE

Section 54-29. Clerk-treasurer.

There shall be a clerk-treasurer appointed by the mayor with the approval of the council. He shall serve at the pleasure of the council. His compensation shall be determined by the council. The clerk-treasurer shall be the chief financial officer of the Town. The financial powers of the Town, except as otherwise provided by this charter, shall be exercised by the clerk-treasurer under the direct supervision of the mayor.