

#17-1278

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the

Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Clerk

DATE: October 17, 2017

TITLE: Ordinance – 2018 Regular Triennial Municipal Primary Election –

Modifying of Date and Qualifying Period

Recommendation

At the request of the Broward County Supervisor of Elections, it is recommended that the City Commission introduce an ordinance modifying the date of the 2018 regular triennial municipal primary election to be held on January 16, 2018 with the qualifying period to begin at noon November 6, 2017 and end at noon on November 13, 2017.

Background

Section 7.05 of the City Charter currently provides that the regular municipal primary election for members of the City Commission shall be held every third year on the second Tuesday in February. Pursuant to Sections 100.3605 and 166.021(4), Florida Statutes, a governing body of a municipality may, by ordinance, change the date of any municipal election.

The Broward County Supervisor of Elections has informed the City that the voting system devices used by Broward County are not capable of processing both the City's primary election on the second Tuesday in February, 2018, and the general municipal election scheduled for March 13, 2018, within such a short window of time.

The City Commission deems it to be in the best interest of the citizens and residents of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida to change the date of the 2018 regular triennial municipal primary election.

The City Commission, at its October 3, 2017 meeting, unanimously approved a motion to use the dates recommended by the Broward County Supervisor of Elections for the upcoming municipal elections and qualifying period.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Proposed Ordinance

Prepared by: Wendy Gonyea, Assistant City Clerk IV

Department Director: Jeffrey A. Modarelli, City Clerk