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ORDINANCE NO. 2025-25

**AN ORDINANCE OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA'S COUNCIL
AMENDING THE CANDIDATE QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR
THE 2026 MUNICIPAL ELECTION; PROVIDING A CONFLICTS
CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND
PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, section 9(C) of the Village of Wellington Charter provides that any resident of Wellington who wishes to become a candidate for a Village elected office shall qualify with the Village Clerk no sooner than noon on the last Tuesday in January nor later than noon on the second Tuesday in February of the year in which the election is to be held; and

WHEREAS, section 100.3605, Florida Statutes, permits the governing body of a municipality, by ordinance, to change the dates for qualifying and for the election of members of the governing body of the municipality to provide for the orderly transition of office resulting from such date changes; and

WHEREAS, the Palm Beach County Supervisor of Elections requires a minimum of 95 days prior to an election to prepare, print, and test municipal election ballots and to convert such ballots into an accessible format for persons with disabilities and has requested that municipalities modify their candidate qualifying periods to accommodate this time constraint; and

WHEREAS, the Wellington Council now desires to modify its qualifying period to accommodate the Supervisor's request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF WELLINGTON, FLORIDA THAT:

SECTION 1: The Village of Wellington hereby amends the candidate qualifying period for the 2026 Municipal Election to run from noon on November 4, 2025 to noon on November 18, 2025.

SECTION 2. Nothing herein is intended to create a permanent change to the Village Charter. Following the candidate qualifying period for the 2026 Municipal Election, municipal election qualifying periods shall thereafter comply with Wellington's Charter.

SECTION 3. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance conflict with any section, paragraph, clause or phrase of any prior Wellington Ordinance, Resolution, or Municipal Code provision; then in that event the provisions of this Ordinance shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4: Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance be declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of this Ordinance as a whole or any portion or part thereof, other than

1 the part so declared to be invalid.

2
3 **SECTION 5:** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption of the
4 Wellington Council following second reading.

5
6 **PASSED** this _____ day of _____, 2025 upon first reading.

7
8 **PASSED AND ADOPTED** this _____ day of _____, 2025, on second and final
9 reading.

10
11 **WELLINGTON**

12 **FOR**

12 **AGAINST**

13
14 BY: _____

15 Michael J. Napoleone, Mayor

16
17 _____

18 Tanya Siskind, Vice Mayor

19
20 _____

21 John T. McGovern, Councilman

22
23 _____

24 Maria Antuña, Councilwoman

25
26 _____

27 Amanda Silvestri, Councilwoman

28
29 **ATTEST:**

30
31 BY: _____

32 Chevelle D. Hall, Village Clerk

33
34
35 **APPROVED AS TO FORM AND**
36 **LEGAL SUFFICIENCY**

37
38 BY: _____

39 Laurie Cohen, Village Attorney