

Municipal Election Comparison

City	Form of Government	% of Most Recent Voter Turnout	Primary	General	Filing Fee	Petition	Term Length	Staggered
<i>Morgantown</i>	<i>Manager- Council</i>	22.25%	no	<i>Last Tuesday of April, odd years</i>	no	75 signatures	2 years	no
Barboursville	Mayor-Council	26.66%	no	1st Tuesday of June, odd years	no	50 signatures	2 years	no
Bridgeport	Manager- Council	35.79%	no	2nd Tuesday of June, odd years	\$25	no	4 years	yes
Charleston	Mayor-Council	12.00%	with County	With County	\$100	no	4 years	no
Clarksburg	Council-Manager	19.10%	no	1st Tuesday of June, every 2nd odd year	yes	no	4 years	yes
Fairmont	Manager- Council	29.50%	no	With County	\$15	no	4 years	no
Grafton	Manager-Mayor	30.00%	yes	With County	\$25 (optional)	25 signatures, or pay fee	4 years	no
Huntington	Mayor-Council	54.08%	with County	With County	Mayor \$250 Council \$60	no	4 years	no
Parkersburg	Strong Mayor	15.00%	with County	With County	no	no	4 years	no
Wheeling	Mayor-Manager	22.93%	Council election with county on primary date	no	\$50	no	4 years	no

**Upcoming Primary Dates**  
 5/13/2014  
 5/10/2016  
 5/8/2018

**Potential Council Terms**  
 7-1-14 to 6-30-16  
 7-1-16 to 6-30-18  
 7-1-18 to 6-30-20

**Current Council Term:**  
 Elected: 4-30-13 7-1-13 to 6-30-15  
 Next Election: 4-28-15 7-1-15 to 6-30-17

Zimbra

[llittle@cityofmorgantown.org](mailto:llittle@cityofmorgantown.org)**Parkersburg elections**

**From :** Parkersburg Clerk <[parkersburgclerk@parkersburg-ww.com](mailto:parkersburgclerk@parkersburg-ww.com)>  
**Subject :** Parkersburg elections

Thu, Jun 05, 2014 04:16 PM

**To :** Linda Little <[llittle@cityofmorgantown.org](mailto:llittle@cityofmorgantown.org)>

 1 attachment

Linda, the Wood County Clerk's office told me that during the primary election in 2012 the percentage of voters was 28%; and for the general, the percentage was 62%.

As you know, Parkersburg City Council voted in 2005 to amend our City Charter to hold our elections with Wood County because our voter turnout for that last election was 15%, and the cost was \$80,000.00 and climbing.

Our County Clerk at that time, Jamie Six, had approached the City for a couple of years inviting us to join in with their elections to help with voter turnout and save the citizens money. After all ordinances were adopted and put on the ballot, the voters decided to combine with the County by a large margin. We set the dates to coincide with primaries and general elections in the Presidential years. So far we've had two City elections with the County and the results couldn't be better. We've always had a good working relationship with Wood County and this was just another step of cooperation. The County does not charge us for anything, but they ask for our assistance during the canvass, which is nominal.

I hope this helps you and your City and County officials work toward this partnership. It's been very good for all of us, and saves a lot of money and a lot of duplication of services. It also saves confusion for our citizens. Our voter turnout went up considerably since more people vote in the presidential cycles, and we've had no complaints.

Most sincerely, and give my best to your Council,  
Connie Shaffer

Connie Shaffer, CMC, MMC  
City Clerk



One Government Square  
City of Parkersburg WV  
P: 304-424-8442  
E: [parkersburgclerk@parkersburg-ww.com](mailto:parkersburgclerk@parkersburg-ww.com)  
[www.parkersburg-ww.com](http://www.parkersburg-ww.com)



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PARKERSBURG  
CITY OF

ORDINANCE NO. 740

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE VII, SECTION 58 AND  
REPEALING ARTICLE VII, SECTION 59 OF THE GRAFTON  
CITY CHARTER RELATING TO CANDIDATES FOR CITY  
COUNCIL.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Grafton, West Virginia, does find it necessary, due to changes in the election laws of this State, to amend those portions of the City Charter prescribing procedures for the election of members of City Council;

**AND WHEREAS**, the Council is authorized by Chapter 8, Article 4, Section 8 of the West Virginia Code, as amended, to make enact such amendments by ordinance;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Grafton, West Virginia, pursuant to authority granted by the Laws of this State, does ordain that the Grafton City Charter be amended as follows:

**Section 1: Amendment of Article VII, Section 58:**

Section 58, Article VII of the Grafton City Charter shall be amended as follows:

**SECTION 58 -- CANDIDATES FOR CITY COUNCIL; DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY;  
FILING FEE**

1. Any resident of the City of Grafton who is otherwise eligible to hold elective office in this State may become a candidate for City Council by filing with the City Clerk a certificate declaring their candidacy therefor. The declaration of candidacy so filed shall be substantially in form as prescribed by the City Clerk for such purpose, shall be signed before a notary public or other officer authorized to give oaths, and shall contain the following information:
  - a. the date of the election in which the candidate seeks to appear on the ballot;
  - b. a statement declaring the specific ward which the candidate seeks to represent or declaring an intent to seek election at-large;
  - c. the legal name of the candidate and the exact name the candidate desires to appear on the ballot;
  - d. the specific residence address of the candidate at the time of filing, including number and street or rural route and box number;
  - e. a statement declaring that the candidate is a resident of the City, is legally eligible to hold office, and is a candidate for the office in good faith and will serve in said office if elected.

2. Every person who desires to become a candidate for election to City Council shall, at the time of filing the declaration of candidacy heretofore required, pay to the Clerk a filing fee in the amount of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00). All filing fees collected shall be deposited into the General Fund and shall be applied to defray the costs of the election.

3. A person seeking election to City Council who is unable to pay the filing fee required herein may become a candidate by filing with the aforementioned declaration of candidacy a statement declaring that they are unable to pay the filing fee due to a lack of financial resources. Such statement shall be substantially in form as prescribed by the City Clerk for such purpose and shall be signed before a notary public or other officer authorized to give oaths. The statement shall be accompanied by a petition, which shall be substantially in form as prescribed by the City Clerk for such purpose, requesting that the filing fee be waived and that the candidate set forth therein be placed upon the ballot. The petition shall contain the signatures of twenty-five qualified voters residing in the ward from which they seek election or, in the case of a candidate seeking election at-large, twenty-five qualified voters residing in the City. The petition shall further contain the specific residence of address of each signator thereto. A candidate may submit a petition containing a greater number of signatures than required, but the City Clerk shall not be required to determine the validity of a greater number of signatures than that required by this section. No qualified voter shall forfeit their opportunity to participate in any election by signing any such petition, but no voter shall be permitted to sign more than one such petition in any given election.

4. All certificates of candidacy shall be filed with the City Clerk, accompanied by the appropriate filing fee or declaration of impecuniosity and in-lieu-of-filing-fee petition, no earlier than the second Monday of January next preceding the date of the election nor later than midnight, eastern standard time, on the last Saturday in January next preceding said election. If mailed, the certificate of candidacy must be postmarked by the United States Postal Service before that hour.

The Clerk shall, within a reasonable time, examine each declaration and petition so submitted to determine the sufficiency thereof. Any declaration or petition which is found to be insufficient for any reason shall be immediately returned by said Clerk, accompanied by a statement setting forth the reason for its rejection. The deficiencies of any such declaration or petition may be corrected and such declaration or petition may be filed anew during the filing period heretofore prescribed.

**Section 2: Repeal of Article VII, Section 59.**

Section 59 of Article VII of the Grafton City Charter is hereby repealed.

**Section 3: Severability.**

Should any provision of this Ordinance be rendered invalid, illegal, or inoperative for any reason whatsoever by a court of competent jurisdiction, such action shall not be deemed to affect the operation or enforcement of any other provision contained herein which may be given effect without benefit the provision so rendered.

**Section 4: Effective Date: Preservation of Record.**

This Ordinance shall be in effect from the date of adoption. The Clerk is directed, upon adoption of this Ordinance, to cause a copy of these amendments, this Ordinance and a transcript of the related proceedings to be certified to the Clerk of the House of Delegates, as keeper of the rolls, for preservation as an authentic public record. It is further directed that such be recorded in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of Taylor County, West Virginia.

  
G. Thomas Bartlett III,  
Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Larry M. Richman,  
City Clerk

First Reading:	November 15, 2005
First Publication:	November 18, 2005
Second Publication:	November 25, 2005
Second Reading:	December 6, 2005
Public Hearing:	December 6, 2005
Adoption:	December 6, 2005

*This instrument prepared by*  
*Lloyd W. Spring III, Attorney at Law*  
*WV/SB ID# 5181*  
*1201 West Main Street*  
*Grafton, West Virginia 26354-1033*

An Ordinance written to update and change the duly accepted Charter of the City of Grafton, dated April 30, 1985, specifically Article VII, Section 57 - City Elections.

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Grafton wishes to update the above mentioned Section of the Charter of the City of Grafton to reflect changes made by the State Legislature in the WV Code:

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it right and necessary to hold the City Election concurrent with the County-State elections whenever it is necessary to have a municipal election,

THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Council of the City of Grafton that the municipal election date will be held concurrent with county-state primary.

This ordinance will take effect ten days after final reading and acceptance.

*Bruce S. Miller*  
Mayor

ATTEST:

*Margaret Kraft Cox*  
Margaret Kraft Cox  
City Clerk

FIRST READING	July 5, 1989
SECOND READING	August 15, 1989
PUBLIC HEARING	August 15, 1989
EFFECTIVE DATE	August 15, 1989
LEGALS	July 12, 1989 and July 19, 1989