

**Article 8**  
**Municipal Elections**

**Section 800. Application**

Except as specifically provided in this Charter, all state laws governing the conduct of elections for city offices and city ballot measures, including but not limited to the qualification and nomination of candidates, shall apply to municipal elections in the City of Oceanside.

**Section 801. Municipal Elective Offices**

- A. There shall be a City Council of five members, consisting of four Councilmembers and a Mayor, elected from the City at large at the times and in the manner provided in this Charter.
- B. The positions of City Clerk and City Treasurer shall be elected from the City at large at the times and in the manner provided in this Charter.
- C. Effective in June 2012, each Council seat shall be numbered one (1) through four (4) respectively. The City Clerk shall be responsible for assigning numbers to each Council position. Persons seeking election to the City Council shall at the time of filing of nomination papers, select the specific numbered Council seat for which they seek election. Should a vacancy occur at any time in a Council seat, if the vacancy is to be filled by special election, candidates for the vacancy shall designate the specific numbered seat on their nominating paper.
- D. The term of each member of the City Council, the Mayor, the City Clerk and City Treasurer shall be a period of four years.
- E. For the general municipal election in 2012 only, the election for Council seats numbered one (1) and two (2), the Mayor, City Clerk and City Treasurer shall be conducted on the same date as the statewide election in November 2012. A candidate for any of these offices in November 2012 shall be deemed elected upon receipt of the highest number of votes cast for the particular office.
- F. Effective with the general municipal election in 2014, the election for Council seats numbered one (1) through four (4), the Mayor, City Clerk and City Treasurer shall be conducted on the same date as the state primary election in June. A candidate for any of these municipal offices shall be deemed elected upon receipt of a majority of the votes cast for the particular office. If no candidate at the general municipal election receives a majority of the votes cast for the office, there shall be a runoff election between the two candidates receiving the highest and second highest number of votes for the particular office. The runoff election shall be held on the same date as the statewide election date in November immediately following the general municipal election. At the runoff election, the candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast for the particular office shall be deemed elected. Ties at the runoff election shall be resolved by lot.
- G. Any candidate at any recall election or special election to fill a vacancy in any of Council seats numbered one (1) through four (4), or the Offices of Mayor, City Clerk or City Treasurer, shall be deemed elected upon receipt of a majority of the votes cast for the particular office. If no candidate at the recall election or special election receives a majority of the votes cast, there shall be a special runoff election between the two candidates receiving the highest and second highest number of votes for the particular office. The special runoff election shall be held on a date set by Council no longer than five months after the special election. Ties at the special runoff election shall be resolved by lot.