

ORDINANCE 97-1

AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONDUCT OF GENERAL ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA, INCLUDING DATE OF ELECTIONS; OFFICES TO BE FILLED; NUMBER OF VOTES REQUIRED FOR ELECTION TO OFFICE; PUBLIC NOTICE OF ELECTIONS; ELECTION PROCEDURE; QUALIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF VOTERS; QUALIFICATION OF CANDIDATES AND OATH OR AFFIRMATION OF INTENT TO BE A BONA FIDE CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE FOR WHICH CANDIDATES QUALIFY; AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

The following rules and regulations are hereby adopted for the conduct of general elections within the territorial limits of the City of St. Lucie Village, Florida:

ARTICLE I. Elections.

(a) Regular municipal elections shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday of May of each year.

(b) At each regular election there shall be elected a Marshall to serve a term of one year or until a successor has been duly elected and qualified. At each regular election coming in an even numbered year there shall be elected two members of the Board of Aldermen and a Mayor; at each regular election coming in an odd numbered year there shall be elected three members of the Board of Aldermen and a City Clerk. The term of office for the Mayor, the City Clerk and all aldermen shall be two years or until a successor has been duly elected or appointed and qualified.

(c) Every candidate who shall receive the greatest number of votes cast for the office for which he or she is a candidate shall be elected to that office.

In elections in which two or three members of the Board of Aldermen are to be elected, the two or three candidates, as the case may be, out of any number of candidates seeking election to the Board of Aldermen, who shall receive the greatest number of votes cast, whether an equal number or unequal numbers, shall be elected as members of the Board of Aldermen.

In the event of one or more tie votes, then, the candidates who shall be elected and take office shall be determined by lot devised and conducted by the Board of Aldermen at a meeting of such Board held for the purpose of canvassing the returns of the election and the results thereof within one week of the day of the election.

(d) At least sixty (60) days before the day of the general election, a notice shall be posted at three places accessible to the public, said notice setting forth the date, time and place of the election and the offices to be filled at such election.

ARTICLE II. Election Procedure.

(a) All ballots used in annual elections in the City shall be without party mark or designation and without any insignia or mark of any association or organization thereon. It shall contain in addition to a title and date of the election the name of each duly qualified candidate for each office, arranged in alphabetical order, and a place for marking the voter's choice of the candidate for such office. The ballot shall list candidates who are unopposed. "Write-in" candidates are not allowed and the ballot shall not provide for the same.

(b) The polling place shall be at the meeting place of the City Aldermen unless otherwise designated by the Board of Aldermen; shall be open from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., on election day and shall be in charge of at least two election officials appointed by the Board. The duty of the election officials shall be to ascertain the eligibility to cast a ballot of each prospective voter; to issue ballots to each eligible voter; to direct him to a place where he can vote in private; to see that his ballot is deposited in a sealed ballot box; to open the ballot box after the polls are closed and prepare a tabulation of the valid votes cast for each candidate for each office voted upon.

(c) All ballots are to be held for canvass of the results by the Board of Aldermen as previously noted.

(d) All ballots shall be held invalid if it does not clearly show which candidates the voter prefers.

#### ARTICLE III. Qualification and Registration of Voters.

(a) In all general elections of municipal officers a voter, to be eligible to vote shall have resided within the corporate limits of the City of St. Lucie Village for a period of 30 days next preceding the election; shall have registered with the St. Lucie County Supervisor of Elections as eligible to vote in St. Lucie County, Florida, at all elections; and shall be included on a list prepared from the records of St. Lucie County Supervisor of Registration as residing within the corporate limits of the City.

(b) The Clerk or Mayor of the City shall be the official representative of the City in all transactions with the County Supervisor of Elections, in relation to matters pertaining to the use of registration records herein mentioned used to determine the eligibility of electors to qualify for voting.

(c) The County Supervisor of Elections shall be entitled to reasonable compensation for services rendered to the City.

(d) The County Voter Registration books, from which the qualification of electors is determined shall close thirty days before the day of election.

#### ARTICLE IV. Qualification of Candidates.

(a) Any qualified elector of the City who has continuously resided or will have continuously resided therein for a period of 30 days prior to the date of any election, and who shall desire to become a candidate for office in such election shall file with the Clerk or Mayor not more than sixty (60) days nor later than thirty (30) days preceding the date of such election, a written request that his name be placed upon the ballot for election and declare himself as a bona fide candidate for such office and shall furthermore take, sign and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in writing in the following form:

(b) STATE OF FLORIDA  
CITY OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA

Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ to me well known, who being sworn says that (s)he is a candidate for the office of \_\_\_\_\_; that (s)he is a qualified elector of the City of St. Lucie Village, Florida; that (s)he has, or will have, resided within the corporate limits of the City of St. Lucie Village for 30 days immediately preceding the date of election; and, that (s)he is qualified under the

Constitution and laws of Florida to hold the office to which (s)he desires to be elected.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Candidate

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 199\_\_\_\_, at the City of St. Lucie Village, Florida.

ARTICLE V. Financial Disclosure.


All candidates shall comply with Florida Statutes Chapter 112 at the time for qualification for office unless an incumbent seeks reelection, in which case the candidate shall comply with Chapter 112 as set forth therein.

ARTICLE VI. Effective Date.

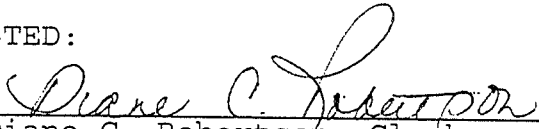
The Ordinance shall become effective upon passage and supersede all prior election ordinances or resolutions.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Lucie Village on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 1997.

APPROVED:  
BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA

By:   
Stephen P. Hoskins, Mayor

ATTESTED:

By:   
Diane C. Robertson, Clerk

I, DIANE C. ROBERTSON, Clerk of the TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA, do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Ordinance 97-1 which was duly introduced, read and adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA, held this 18th day of February, 1997.

  
DIANE C. ROBERTSON, CLERK