

ORDINANCE 2016-3

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ELECTION ORDINANCE 97-1 TO PERMIT THE EXTENSION OF THE QUALIFYING PERIOD IF NO CANDIDATE HAS QUALIFIED FOR A GIVEN OFFICE DURING THE SPECIFIED PERIOD, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Lucie Village adopted Ordinance 97-1 on February 18, 1997, setting forth rules and regulations for the conduct of general elections in St. Lucie Village; and

WHEREAS, the current provisions of Article IV Of Ordinance 97-1 specify a period during which candidates are to file a request and statement in order to qualify for election, but there have been occasions when no one files for a given office; and,

WHEREAS, permitting the Board of Aldermen to extend the time for filing the required request and statement would provide a democratic method to address vacancies in office resulting from no candidate qualifying; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Aldermen desires to amend Article IV of Ordinance 97-1 to permit the extension of the qualifying period for candidates if no one has qualified for election to a given office during the specified qualifying period; and

WHEREAS, it appears to the Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Lucie Village, that amending Article IV of Ordinance 97-1 of the Town of St. Lucie Village to address this issue is appropriate and necessary; and

WHEREAS, there is a pending election scheduled for May 3, 2016, for which there are no candidates who have qualified for the Mayor and two Aldermen positions, so addressing this issue on an emergency basis, as permitted in Section 166.041(2)(b), *Florida Statutes*, is necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Lucie Village, Florida hereby ordains:

1. That Article IV of Ordinance 97-1 is hereby amended to read as follows (with tracked changes):

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 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.

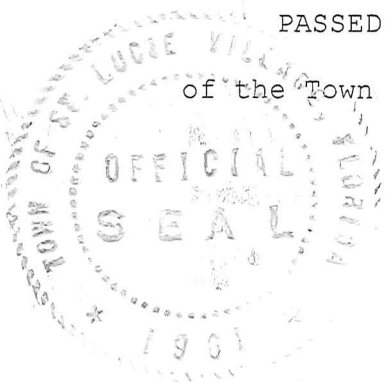
Signature of Candidate

Sworn to and subscribed before me this ____ day of _____, _____, at the City of St. Lucie Village, Florida.

(c) In the event that no candidate has qualified for a given office that is up for election by filing the written request and statement specified in Section (b) above, within the timeframe specified in Section (a) above, the Board of Aldermen of the Town of St. Lucie Village, Florida, may, by resolution, extend the time for filing the referenced paperwork in order that notice may be given and any interested person may file to qualify for an open office during an extended qualifying period of at least five (5) days duration, notice of which shall be physically posted within St. Lucie Village in the same fashion that notice of the election and original qualifying period was posted. The date of the election shall remain the first Tuesday in May; provided, however, that if the Supervisor of Elections advises that the contemplated extended qualifying period would require that the election be delayed, the Board may, in the resolution extending the qualifying period, provide for an alternative election date which would meet the requirements of the Supervisor of Elections.

(d) In the event that at least one candidate has timely qualified for the office of Alderman but there are more open positions than there are candidates who have timely qualified, any candidate who has timely qualified as per Sections (a) and (b) above shall be deemed elected unopposed, and the extended qualifying period shall apply only to the still open position(s),

2. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon passage.



PASSED AND APPROVED by a 4-0 vote of the Board of Aldermen
of the Town of St. Lucie Village on this 21st day of April, 2016.

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

By: William G. Thiess
William G. Thiess, Mayor

ATTESTED:

By: Diane C. Orme
Diane C. Orme, Clerk

I, DIANE C. ORME, Clerk of the TOWN OF ST. LUCIE VILLAGE, FLORIDA,
do hereby certify that this is a true and accurate copy of Ordinance
2016-3 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 21st day of April, 2016.

Diane C. Orme
DIANE C. ORME, CLERK