

#210370

City of Gainesville

City Commission Vacancy/Special Election Process
Item #210342



City of Gainesville Code Section 2.04

(4) Vacancies in office shall be filled in one of the following ways:

(a)

If less than 6 months remain in the unexpired term or until the next regular election, the commission by a majority vote of the remaining members shall choose and appoint a successor, who is otherwise eligible under section 2.03 of this act, to serve until a newly elected commissioner is qualified.

(b)

If more than 6 months remain in the unexpired term and a general election is not scheduled within 6 months, the commission shall fill the vacancy by a special election to be held not more than 60 days after the occurrence of the vacancy.

Special Election Timeline



September 30th

Effective Date of Vacancy

Upon receipt of executed Certificate of Resignation



September 20-24th

Qualifying Period

Held at least 50 days prior to Election date

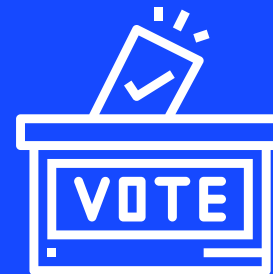


October 16th

Proclamation Calling Election

Release proclamation no later than the 16th.

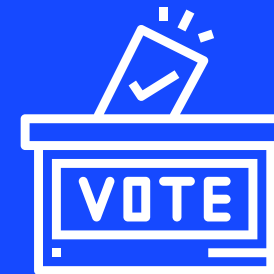
Precinct locations dependent upon availability and poll worker availability.



November 12-14th

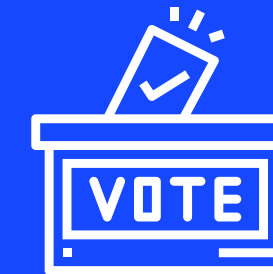
Early Voting

To be held at the Supervisor's Office & Millhopper Library



November 16th

Election Day



January 21-23rd

Early Voting for Run-off (if needed)

To be held at the Supervisor's Office & Millhopper Library



January 25th

Run-off election, If needed

Recommendation

1. **Authorize the City Clerk to engage the Supervisor of Elections Office to hold a Special Election for the City of Gainesville with the following dates:**
 - a. November 16, 2021 - Special Election Day
 - b. Qualifying period beginning at noon on September 20, 2021 and ending at noon on September 24, 2021
 - c. Early Voting - November 12-14, 2021 at the Supervisor of Elections Office & Millhopper Library (drop boxes available during early voting from 9am-6pm at both locations, from 8:30-5pm at the Supervisor's Office after early voting and from 7am-7pm at the Supervisor's Office on Election Day.
 - d. Run off election (if needed) on January 25th, 2022 with early voting January 21-23rd, 2021 at the Supervisor's Office and Millhopper Library (if needed).
2. Appoint a Commissioner to serve on the Canvassing Board.
3. Authorize the City Clerk to advertise for a citizen seat on the Canvassing Board from September 2-30, 2021.
4. Approve a \$200,000 advance to the Supervisor of Elections Office for the cost of the election (pending approval of Budget Amendment Resolution 210151).
5. Direct the City Attorney to bring back recommendations for a charter amendment to section 2.04 of the City Charter that requires an election to be held within 60 days of a vacancy on the Commission.