ORDINANCE NO. 2014-26 OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 2-14.1 OF CHAPTER 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGARDING CANDIDATE QUALIFYING PERIOD; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING THAT CONFLICTING ORDINANCES ARE REPEALED; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 83-498 Laws of Florida (Uniform Municipal Election Act) requires candidates for any municipal office in Palm Beach County to file such papers and pay such fees as may be required by law with the applicable municipal clerk no earlier than noon on the last Tuesday in January nor later than noon on the second Tuesday in February of the calendar year in which the election is to be held; and

WHEREAS, the names of all candidates and the offices for which they have filed shall be received by the supervisor of elections from the municipal clerks by 5:00 PM on the first Friday after the close of qualifying; and

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend the qualifying period to address several matters; and

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2014, the City adopted Ordinance No. 2014-25 exempting itself from the Uniform Municipal Election Act in order to change its candidate qualifying period; and

WHEREAS, the Commission finds amending the qualifying period serves a valid public purpose.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF LAKE WORTH, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. The above whereas clauses are true and correct.

Section 2. Section 2-14.1 of the Code of Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

Chapter 2

ADMINISTRATION

* * *

ARTICLE II. ELECTIONS

Sec. 2-14.1. Candidate qualifying period.

Candidates for Mayor or City Commissioner shall file such papers and pay such fees as may be required by law with the City Clerk no earlier than noon on the last Tuesday in <u>January November</u>, nor later than noon on the second Tuesday in <u>February December</u> of the <u>preceding</u> calendar year in which the election is to be held.

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Section 3. If any provision of this Ordinance, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the Ordinance which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this Ordinance are declared severable.

Section 4. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances in conflict be and the same are hereby repealed.

Section 5. Section 2 of this ordinance shall be codified.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall become effective ten (10) days after passage.

The passage of this Ordinance on first reading was moved by Commissioner Amoroso, seconded by Vice Mayor Maxwell, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| Mayor Pam Triolo | AYE |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Vice Mayor Scott Maxwell | AYE |
| Commissioner Christopher McVoy | NAY |
| Commissioner Andy Amoroso | AYE |
| Commissioner John Szerdi | AYE |

The Mayor thereupon declared this Ordinance duly passed on first reading on the 23rd day of September 2014.

The passage of this Ordinance on second reading was moved by Commissioner Amoroso, seconded by Commissioner Szerdi, and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

| Mayor Pam Triolo | ABSENT |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Vice Mayor Scott Maxwell | AYE |
| Commissioner Christopher McVoy | NAY |
| Commissioner Andy Amoroso | AYE |
| Commissioner John Szerdi | AYE |

The Mayor thereupon declared this Ordinance duly passed and enacted on the 7th day of October, 2014.

LAKE WORTH CITY COMMISSION

By: _____ Pam Triolo, Mayor

ATTEST:

Pamela J. Lopez, City Clerk