

**ORDINANCE NO. 2084**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLDEN, COLORADO, SUBMITTING TO THE VOTERS AN AMENDMENT TO THE HOME RULE CHARTER REGARDING MINIMUM AGE QUALIFICATIONS FOR MUNICIPAL ELECTORS AND ESTABLISHING A BALLOT TITLE THEREFOR**

WHEREAS, Golden's home rule charter defines "elector" by reference to the constitution and statutes of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Colorado law currently provides that individuals who are 18 years of age or older are eligible to qualify to register to vote; and

WHEREAS, Golden, as a Colorado home rule municipality, is authorized to expand the right to vote in City of Golden's elections; and

WHEREAS, lowering the voting age to 16 can help establish voting patterns critical to success of American democracy; and

WHEREAS, City Council believes that the electors of the City of Golden may wish to expand the pool of voters for municipal elections to include residents of Golden who have attained the age of 16 years; and

WHEREAS, City Council desires to present to the electors of Golden, at a special election held in conjunction with the November 6, 2018 state general election, a ballot question as to whether City Council should be authorized to enact an ordinance that would permit the registration and participation in Golden's municipal elections by individual residents of the City of Golden that have attained the age of at least 16 years.

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GOLDEN, COLORADO:

Section 1. Subject to the approval of the registered electors of the City of Golden, Section 15.14 k., of the City of Golden Home Rule Charter defining "Elector," is amended to read as follows: \*

k. ELECTOR. A resident of the City registered to vote under the constitution and statutes of the State of Colorado, provided that the City Council may, by the enactment of an ordinance, authorize every resident who has attained the age of 16 years, who otherwise meets the qualifications of a municipal elector of the constitution and the statutes of the State of Colorado, to register and vote at City elections.

\*Underlined language represents newly added language.

Section 2. Subject to the approval of the registered electors of the City of Golden, the first sentence of Section 3.4 of the City of Golden Home Rule Charter, is amended to read as follows: \*

3.4 QUALIFICATIONS.

Each councilman when nominated and elected shall have attained the age of 18 years, be an elector of the City, a citizen of the United States for at least five (5) years, and shall have resided in the City for one year preceding such election.

\*Underlined language represents newly added language.

Section 3. A Special Election shall be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2018, in conjunction with the state's general election, at which election there shall be submitted to the vote of the registered electors of the City of Golden, the following ballot question:

SHALL SECTIONS 3.4 AND 15.14 k. OF THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF GOLDEN BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE CITY COUNCIL TO ENACT AN ORDINANCE THAT WOULD ALLOW 16 AND 17 YEAR OLDS TO VOTE IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS WHILE RETAINING THE CURRENT REQUIREMENT THAT COUNCIL MEMBERS BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD?

YES \_\_\_\_\_

NO \_\_\_\_\_

Section 4. Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes, the election of November 8, 2018, shall be conducted as a coordinated election and the Election Official is hereby authorized and directed to take all such actions as are necessary or desirable there under to effectuate the election as a coordinated, mail ballot election.

Section 5. The Council appoints Monica Mendoza, City Clerk, as the designated election official (the "Election Official") for purposes of the election. The Election Official shall have all of the rights and obligations prescribed under statutes for such an Election Official in the conduct of a coordinated election and shall act as primary liaison between Jefferson County Clerk and the City with respect to the election as provided in the Intergovernmental Agreement.

Section 6. The City authorizes the City Manager, upon recommendation of the City Clerk, to enter into and carry out the terms of an Intergovernmental Agreement (the "Intergovernmental Agreement") with Jefferson County as required by state statute, describing the allocation of responsibility among the County Clerk, the City and the other political subdivisions in the County for the preparation and the conduct of the election and the provision for reasonable sharing of the cost of the election among the County, the City and the other participating political subdivisions.

Section 7. The ballot title for the question contained in this Ordinance is hereby determined to be the text of the question itself.

Section 8. The officers and employees of the City are hereby authorized and directed to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance in accordance with Colorado law.

Section 9. All prior acts, orders or resolutions, or parts thereof, by the City in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed, except that this repealer shall not be construed to revive any act, order or resolution, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

Section 10. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this Ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Introduced, read, passed and ordered published this 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018.

Passed and adopted upon second reading and ordered published this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018.

---

Marjorie N. Sloan  
Mayor

ATTEST:

---

Monica S. Mendoza, CMC  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

---

David S. Williamson  
City Attorney

I, Monica S. Mendoza, City Clerk of the City of Golden, Colorado, do hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance was introduced on first reading and read at a regular business meeting of the City Council of said city, held on the 9<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2018 and was published as a proposed ordinance in the Golden Transcript, legal newspaper, as the law directs seven days or more prior to its passage. A public hearing was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018, and the said proposed ordinance was read on second reading. The ordinance was passed by the City Council and ordered published in the aforesaid newspaper, as the law directs on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018.

Witness my hand and official seal of the City of Golden, Colorado, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2018.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Monica S. Mendoza, CMC, City Clerk  
of the City of Golden, Colorado