City Council Report

Date: November 19, 2019

To: City Council

Through: Chris Brady, City Manager

From: Dee Ann Mickelsen, City Clerk

Subject: Text amendments to Mesa City Code Title 1, Chapter 33 entitled "Candidate Election Dates" (Citywide)

Purpose and Recommendation

To be consistent with state statute, consider an amendment to Title 1, Chapter 33 of the Mesa City Code entitled "Candidate Election Dates" to meet the requirements of A.R.S. § 16-201. To comply with state statute, staff recommends approval of the changes described below and contained in the corresponding ordinance.

Background

Section 701(A) of the Mesa City Charter, pursuant to Section 701(F) of the Mesa City Charter and Ordinance 5292, sets the primary election date for offices of Mayor and Councilmember on the tenth Tuesday before the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years and sets the general election date on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of even-numbered years.

A.R.S. § 16-201 was recently amended by Senate Bill 1154 (Fifty-fourth Arizona Legislature, First Regular Session, 2019), modifying the primary election date to the first Tuesday in August in any year in which a general election or special election is held and at which candidates for public office are to be elected. In order to bring its primary election date in line with state law, the City must modify its primary election date set forth in the Title 1, Chapter 33 of the Mesa City Code.