



July 2020

The Dallas Digest

# 2020 ELECTION EDITION

## The Mayor's Space

**Mayor Brian Dalton**



Let's postulate that there is nothing better than good government (for instance, Dallas) and nothing worse than bad government – examples abound. To keep the wolf of bad government from our door, civic mindedness and volunteering are great hallmarks of our Dallas culture. As individuals we can make a difference.

There are a raft of volunteer prospects right here at our churches, civic organizations, clubs, quasi-governments and, of course, our good, old (1874) City. Add all this up and we have this amazing workforce, from grade schoolers to seniors, working away on the flower beds, library, police and fire departments, at the dog park and pound, disc golf course and right at City Hall. To participate in this ennobling experience, contact City Hall, find your niche, and improve the quality of your life and others by volunteering.

And, the election. They say high summer is the silly season and perhaps not coincidentally, the run up to the thrills and the excitement of the November election. Leaving aside the questionable pleasantries of state and national contests, this is a great time for participation in local elections, where real things to help real folks actually get done.

Helpfully, Dallas has five of its nine Council seats on the ballot and, as always, the mayor's position is up again. You might imagine the power, glory and riches attendant to these positions, but you would be in error. Think more in the realm of the manifold satisfactions of civic duty, pride in helping out and getting a small fraction of your expenses reimbursed.

So, if running for local office lights your fire, now's the time to peruse the campaign packet from City Hall for qualifications and the work involved. If, after that, the prospect still excites you, take the plunge, volunteer to run and hit the virtual campaign trail this year.

And, stay safe.

# Dallas 2020 Election Information

## General Process

The next City Council election is scheduled to be held at the Tuesday, November 3, 2020 General Election. At that time, six seats will be up for election; those of Mayor Dalton and Councilors Crawford, Gabliks, Rummell, Trahan, and Woods. The term for Mayor is two years and for councilors is four years. There are no term limits.

Dallas does not have districts or precincts; councilors serve the entire community at-large. Elections are non-partisan. Candidates must be U.S. Citizens, have lived within the Dallas city limits for 12 months prior to the date of the election, and be registered to vote.

The City Council meets the first and third Monday of each month, although if the meeting falls on a holiday, the meeting is moved to Tuesday of the same week. Workshops are typically held the first Monday of the month beginning at 5:30 p.m. with the regular meeting starting at 7 p.m.

Councilors also serve as the Urban Renewal Agency, which holds meetings as necessary, typically immediately following the adjournment of a Council meeting. They also act as half of the Budget Committee and as liaisons to the standing Committees, advisory boards and commissions as assigned, and as regional representatives.

Please note the City's deadlines differ from the state's deadlines. We also strongly encourage you to set up an appointment to discuss filing deadlines, paperwork, and process questions.

## Filing for Office

Candidates file for office by submitting a prospective petition to the City Recorder's office, and once the paperwork is approved in writing, collecting 20 valid signatures. Signatures are then verified, and if enough valid signatures are collected, you become an official candidate, with your name appearing on the ballot for the November 2020 election. Any money spent or collected for your campaign is reported electronically to the Secretary of State's office through the ORESTAR system.

Please Note: There have been no modifications to the petition process due to COVID-19. Polk County will only verify signatures made with pen and ink. We strongly recommend following state guidelines when interacting with members of the public.

## For More Information

As your City Elections Officer, I am here as a resource. Please contact me with any questions about running for Mayor or City Council. **Please be aware that signature sheets must be approved by the City Elections Officer before they may be circulated to collect signatures.** All forms and signature sheets are available at Dallas City Hall. You may also contact the Secretary of State's Office at 503.986.1518 and Polk County Elections at 503.623.9217 with any questions.

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# Open City of Dallas Positions

### Two Year Term

Mayor Brian Dalton



### Four Year Term

Council President  
Jennie Rummell



Councilor Kelly  
Gabliks



Councilor Ken  
Woods, Jr.



Councilor Paul  
Trahan



Councilor Terry  
Crawford

