

**ORDINANCE NO. 07-21-2016**

**AN ORDINANCE CALLING FOR AN ELECTION IN THE CITY OF ELKINS, ARKANSAS ON THE QUESTION OF ELECTING THE TWO ALDERMEN FOR EACH WARD TO FOUR YEAR TERMS AND PRESCRIBING OTHER MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO.**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has discovered that growth in the City and various other changes in the City have increased the complexity of governing well significantly;

**WHEREAS**, in order for an elected official to grasp and understand the needs of the citizens and to fully evaluate the capacity of city government to address those needs, requires great study and seeking experienced counsel in diverse disciplines;

**WHEREAS**, The Elkins City Council has determined that it would be in the best interests of the residents of the City to have the citizens determine if aldermen should serve for four (4) years upon election to enable their elected officials adequate time to learn their responsibilities and be more productive in their roles as members of the Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF ELKINS, ARKANSAS:

**Section 1:** That there be, and there is hereby called, an election to be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at which election there shall be submitted to the electors of the City of Elkins, Arkansas, the question of electing the two aldermen from each ward to four year terms, which four year terms will be effective in 2019 for half the aldermen elected in 2018 and thereafter as provided in ACA § 14-44-103 (a) (5) (A) and (B).

**Section 2:** The Council hereby adopts four (4) year terms for aldermen elected in 2018 and thereafter as provided in ACA § 14-44-103 (a) (5) (A) (B), however, this Ordinance shall not be effective until after the election called in Section 1 above has been held and the four (4) year alderman terms has been approved by the voters.

**Section 3:** That the question of electing aldermen to four (4) year terms shall be placed on the ballot for the election in substantially the following form:

The question presented is whether aldermen for the City of Elkins elected in 2018 and thereafter shall serve four (4) year terms rather than two year terms beginning in 2019 as provided by ACA § 14-44-103.

**FOUR (4) YEAR ALDERMAN TERMS**

Vote for or against electing aldermen for each ward in the City of Elkins for four (4) year terms to begin with half of those aldermen elected at the general election held in November 2018 and to begin with the other half of the aldermen elected at the general election in 2020.

**FOR** FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS FOR ALDERMEN ..... ( )

**AGAINST** FOUR (4) YEAR TERMS FOR ALDERMEN ..... ( )

**Section 4:** That the election shall be held and conducted and the vote canvassed and the results declared under the law and in the manner now provided for municipal elections unless otherwise provided in the Authorizing Legislation and only qualified voters of the City shall have the right to vote at the election.

**Section 5:** That the result of the election shall be proclaimed by the Mayor, and his Proclamation shall be published one time in a newspaper published in the City and having a bonafide circulation therein, which Proclamation shall advise that the results as proclaimed shall be conclusive unless attacked in the courts within thirty (30) days after the date of publication.

**Section 6:** That a copy of this ordinance shall be given to the Washington County Board of Election Commissioners so that the necessary election officials and supplies may be provided.

**Section 7:** The Mayor and Recorder/Treasurer, for and on behalf of the City, be and they are hereby authorized and directed to do any and all things necessary to call and hold the election as herein provided.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_21st\_\_ day of \_\_July\_\_, 2016.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
L. BRUCE LEDFORD, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
DELIA FOSTER, Recorder/Treasurer