

The next municipal election for the City of Metter will be held on Tuesday, November 5, to elect a Mayor (held by William M. “Billy” Trapnell) and two (2) members of Council; Seat 2, District 1 (held by Paul MacGregor), Seat 4, District 2 (held by Gregory Thomas).

Running for Office

The Mayor and Council serve four year staggered terms. The purpose of this provision is to ensure that at no time is the Council composed of a full panel of freshmen members. There are presently no term limits for these positions. In order to qualify for the position of Mayor or councilmember, you must meet the following requirements:

1. Must be a one (1) year City of Metter resident as of the first Tuesday in November of the year for which you are qualifying.
2. Must be a registered voter of the City of Metter
3. Must be 21 years of age.
4. Must state which seat/person for which you are qualifying.
5. Must pay a qualifying fee of \$81 (3% of Council pay) or, if running for the Mayoral seat, \$171 (3% of Mayor’s pay).

All candidates running for office should make themselves familiar with the [Georgia Ethics in Government Act](#).

Council meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Special called meetings are also called on an as-needed basis. Elected officials take office at the first organizational meeting in January following the election. Once elected, the Mayor and all members of Council must continue to reside in the City of Metter during their periods of service and remain registered voters. Additionally, they may not hold any other city office or city employment during any portion of the term for which they are elected.

Compensation for elected officials is as follows: Mayor receives \$475 per month. Mayor Pro tem receives \$230 per month and City Council members receive \$225 per month. Attendance is expected at all regular and called meetings as well as during any Strategic Planning Sessions, some required conferences and seminars, and budget review sessions. Elected officials are also expected to participate in county or community involvement programs, leadership programs, and encouraged to attend various city functions and events.

Interested candidates should familiarize themselves with City operations, including but not limited to review of the Metter City Charter, City Codes/Ordinances, the Constitution of the State of Georgia, and guidelines set forth by the Georgia Government Transparency Campaign Finance Commission.

Qualifying

Qualifying for the 2013 Municipal Election will begin on Monday, August 26, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. and conclude on Friday, August 30, 2013 at 4:30 p.m. in the office of the City Clerk at Metter City Hall, 49 South Rountree Street. The Qualifying packages are available at City Hall.

Reporting

Please note that candidates for public office are required to file forms with the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission (GGTCFC) (formerly known as the State Ethics Commission). For candidate forms and reporting responsibilities please visit <http://ethics.ga.gov>.

Campaigning

All candidates should be aware that the City of Metter has a Sign Ordinance, specifically designated as Article IX of the Metter Code, and campaign signs also fall under these regulations. Visit www.municode.com and follow the links to Metter, Georgia to access the entire code of ordinances online. Other restrictions regarding campaign activities can be found in the Official Code of Georgia (O.C.G.A.) Title 21, also published as the Georgia Election Code and Rules of the State Election Board.