

Goals for the Forum

- ❖ **Overview of municipal government**
- ❖ **Tips for being a successful candidate**
- ❖ **Basic understanding of the election process**

Our City Government

- ❖ **Statutory vs. Home Rule**
- ❖ **Form of Government**
 - ❖ **Council-Manager**

Things to think about

- ❖ **City council is the policy making entity of the city.**
- ❖ **Are you ready to work with fellow council members who may not have the same thought process or a different point of view than you?**

The top portion of the image features a close-up, slightly blurred view of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in warm, golden-yellow and red tones. The text "Election Day" is centered over this background in a white, serif font.

Election Day

November 3, 2015

Are you eligible?

To run for municipal office, you must:

- ❖ Be a citizen of the United States;
- ❖ Be registered to vote;
- ❖ Be at least 21 years old on the date of the election;
and
- ❖ Have lived in the City for at least 12 consecutive months preceding the election. * District candidates must live in the district they are representing

Available council seats for this election?

- ❖ **District I – to complete the remainder of a vacated 4-year term (election in 2017 as well)**
- ❖ **District II - 4-year term**
- ❖ **District IV – 4-year term**
- ❖ **Two at large - the candidate receiving the highest number of votes will serve a four-year term and the at large candidate receiving the second highest number will serve a two-year term.**

Candidate Information

- ❖ **Are you registered to vote?**
- ❖ **Municipal elections are non-partisan**
- ❖ **Know your City limits**
- ❖ **New Interactive maps**

When do I become a candidate?

- ❖ **BE AWARE** of when you become a candidate
- ❖ **There is no limitation on when a candidate for office may commence campaign activities.**

Circulation of Petitions

- ❖ **All petitions must be supplied by the City Clerk's Office**
- ❖ **Do not take apart petitions**
- ❖ **Petitions may ONLY be circulated from**
 - ❖ **August 4, 2015 through August 24, 2015**
- ❖ **Signature Requirements - 50 registered electors**

Circulation of Petitions

- ❖ **The circulator of the petition must witness each registered elector's signature and sign the appropriate statement at the back of the petition.**
- ❖ **The candidate must sign the acceptance of nomination.**

Political Signs

- ❖ **Political signs do not need a permit**
- ❖ **POLITICAL SIGNS ARE NOT ALLOWED ON PARK LAND, MEDIANS, SIDEWALKS, STREET RIGHTS-OF-WAY, IN FRONT OF CITY BUILDINGS OR ANY PUBLIC AREA OWNED OR CONTROLLED BY THE CITY OF LITTLETON. THE PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY INCLUDES THE AREA BETWEEN THE SIDEWALK AND THE STREET**

Helpful Hints

- ❖ **Are you available?**
- ❖ **Do your homework**
- ❖ **Identify present and future issues of your community**
- ❖ **Separate yourself from personal differences of opinions and remember you represent the community as a whole**
- ❖ **Be proactive**

More Helpful Hints

- ❖ Remember what you say is often “news”
- ❖ Help squelch rumors
- ❖ Seek help & pace yourself

Campaign & Political Finance

❖ **Types of filings:**

- ❖ **Candidate Affidavit**

- ❖ **Committee Registration**

- ❖ **Candidate Statement of Non-Receipt of Contributions or Non-Expenditure of Funds**

- ❖ **Report of Contributions and Expenditures**

- ❖ **Statement of Personal Expenditures by a Candidate**

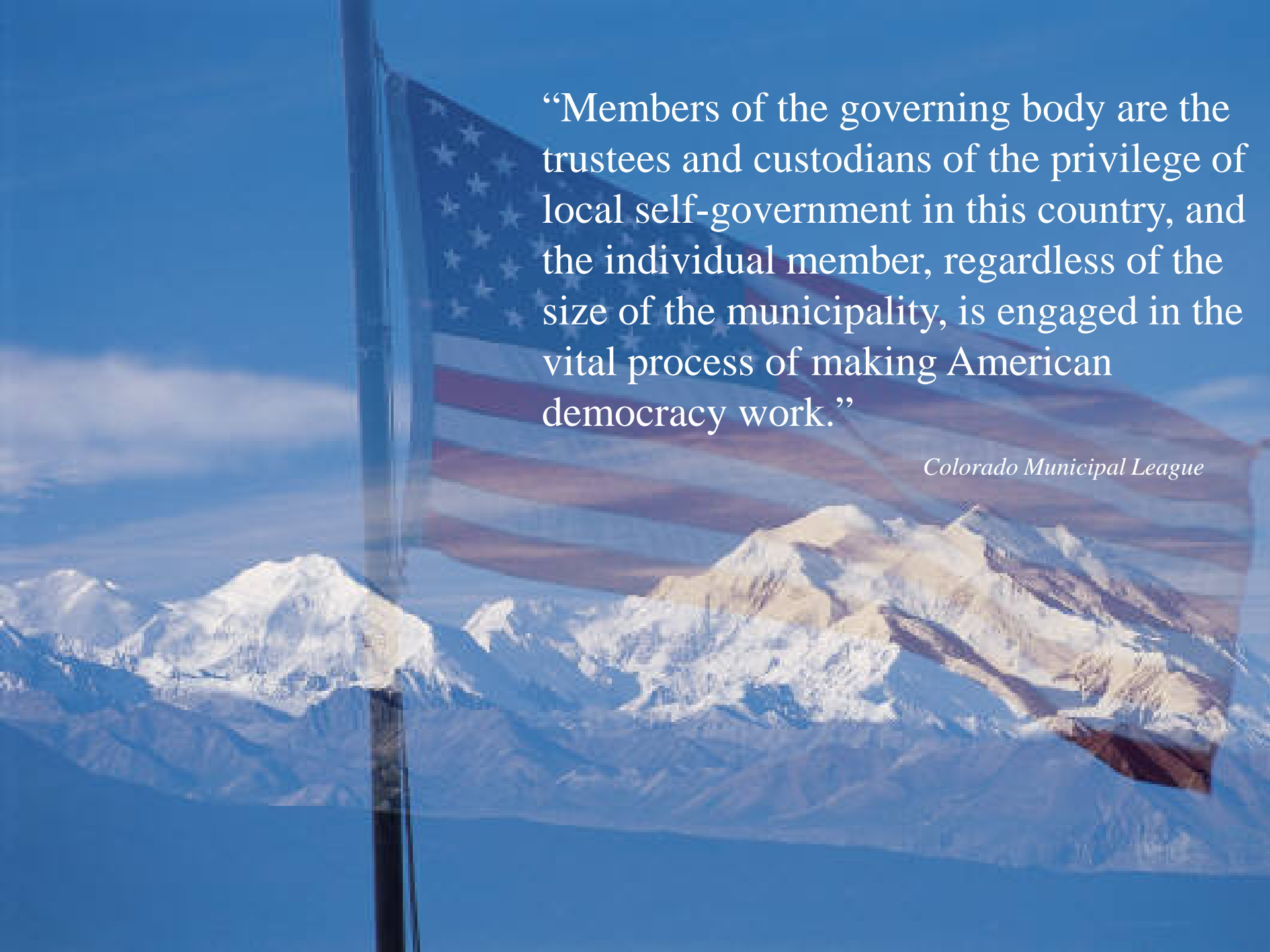
Campaign & Political Finance

❖ Dates for filing reports:

- ❖ 42 days before the election – **September 22, 2015**
 - ❖ 21 days before the election – **October 13, 2015**
 - ❖ 8 days before the election – **October 26, 2015**
 - ❖ 30 days after the election – **December 3, 2015**
- ❖ All Fair Campaign Practices Act Reports are filed with the City Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m. on the “report due” dates

Elected Official Liability

- ❖ **Understanding the roll of municipal official is essential to good governance.**
- ❖ **Training regarding liability is conducted after the election by the city manager, city attorney and the city's insurance CIRSA**

An American flag is shown waving on a tall pole against a clear blue sky. In the background, a range of rugged mountains is visible, with several peaks covered in snow. The overall scene is bright and clear, suggesting a high-altitude or mountainous location.

“Members of the governing body are the trustees and custodians of the privilege of local self-government in this country, and the individual member, regardless of the size of the municipality, is engaged in the vital process of making American democracy work.”

Colorado Municipal League