



TOWN OF CLARKDALE

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Press Release

Contact: Joyce Driscoll
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
11:00 a.m., October 24, 2005

2006 Clarkdale Elections

2006 Elections will be all Vote by Mail Elections! Every voter will be mailed a ballot. There will be NO polling places, however, persons who spoiled or lost their ballot, or who do not receive a ballot may contact the Town Clerk for a replacement. Voted ballots may be mailed to Yavapai County Elections (postage paid), dropping off the ballot in a County drop box, or be dropped-off at Clarkdale Town Hall. For questions, please contact Joyce Driscoll, Admin. Services Director/Town Clerk, (928) 634-9591, joyced@clarkdale.az.us.

There will be a Primary Election on March 14 and the General Election, if needed, will be held on May 16, 2006. Any candidate who receives a majority of all the ballots cast in the Primary election shall be declared to be elected. The Yavapai County Election Department will be conducting the election for the Town.

Two council seats will be available for this election (Vice Mayor Jerry Wiley and Councilmember Tim Wills' terms are expiring). Both seats are for 4 year terms. Also on the ballot will be the Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule Option).

Home Rule Option

In 1980, Arizona voters approved a tax reform package that, among other things, placed an expenditure limitation on cities and towns. However, this legislation allowed local voters in cities and towns to approve an exception to the state imposed expenditure limitation.

Under a state imposed expenditure limitation, a city or town may only expend a certain amount of funds, regardless of the city or town's revenue or individual needs. The city or town's budget is limited by the state-imposed ceiling.

Under the Alternative Expenditure Limitation (Home Rule Option) the city or town may determine its own expenditures based on a city or town budget. With voter approval, the Town shall be limited to the expenditure of estimated available revenues, whether such expenditures are less than, or more than, the state imposed limit.

For cities and towns to use the Home Rule Option, the voters must approve the Option on a ballot. The Home Rule Option, to continue, must be passed by the voters every four years. The Town of Clarkdale

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voters have approved the Home Rule Option every four years since 1980, therefore the Town currently operates under the Home Rule Option.

If voters approve, the additional expenditure authority will continue to be used for all local budgetary purposes, including emergency services, municipal utilities, parks/historic preservation, cemetery, streets, grants/other funds and other government services. Revenues received from federal, state and local sources will be used to fund such expenditures (the town property tax is limited to the amount prescribed in the Arizona State Constitution.)

Voter Registration

There are new voter registration requirements due to the implementation of Proposition 200. To avoid any problems with being registered in time for the election(s), we encourage everyone who is not registered to vote, to register early.

Important Dates

Primary Election

November 1	Candidate packets available
November 8	Public Hearing on Home Rule Option
November 14	First day candidates may file
November 15	Public Hearing on Home Rule Option
December 14	Deadline for candidates to file, Deadline to submit arguments for publicity pamphlet
February 9	Sample ballots available, Publicity pamphlets mailed
February 13	Last day to register to vote in Primary Election
February 20	Ballots mailed out this week
March 14	Primary Election Day - ballots must be received by 7 p.m. Town Hall open until 7 p.m. to receive ballots

The councilmembers-elect do not take office until June. The councilmembers select a Vice Mayor from among themselves.
