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ORDINANCE NO. O-03-168

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR PROCEDURES FOR MUNICIPAL CANDIDATES TO FILE NOMINATING PETITIONS; REPEALING ANY ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, the City of Conway has opted pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated §14-42-206to have non-partisan municipal elections.

WHEREAS, Act 1104 of 2003, codified as Arkansas Code Annotated §14-42-206(e)(1)(B), authorizes the governing body of cities of the first class to require independent candidates for municipal office to file petitions for nomination as independent candidates with the county clerk no earlier than twenty (20) days prior to the preferential primary election and no later than noon **on** the day before the preferential primary election, even if the municipal offices are all independent or otherwise nonpartisan.

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

Section 1. Independent candidates for municipal office for the City of Conway shall file petitions for nomination as independent candidates with the county clerk no earlier than twenty (20) days prior to the preferential primary election and no later than noon on the day before the preferential primary electian, as authorized by A.C.A. §14-42-206 (e)(1)(B).

Section 2. This ordinance shall be published at least once per week for two consecutive weeks immediately following adoption of the ordinance in a newspaper having a general circulation in the City of Conway.

Section 3. All petitions for nomination for municipal office shall otherwise comply with the requirements set out in A.C.A. §14+42-206 and any other applicable state law.

Section 4. That any ordinance in conflict herewith is hereby repealed to the extent of that conflict.

Section 5. That A.C.A. §14-42-206(e)(2)(A) requires that ordinances of this type be enacted no later than ninety (90) days prior to the filing deadline; that further, A.C.A. §14-42-206(e)(2)(B) requires that such ordinances shall be published immediately following adoption of the ordinance; therefore, it being in the public interest to have this ordinance published immediately, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this ordinance shall go into effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED this 25th day of November, 2003.

APPROVED:

Townsell

ATTEST:

Michael O. Garrett, City Clerk