

ELECTIONS

In mayor-council cities, are city elections nonpartisan and, if so, are they required to stay non-partisan?

Generally, city elections in mayor-council cities are nonpartisan. However, the city may elect to hold party primaries by resolution. See Ark. Code Ann. § 14-42-206. To proceed with party primaries, on or before January 1 of the year of the election, the governing body must pass a resolution requesting that the legally recognized political parties of the state conduct such primaries. After passage of the resolution, the clerk or recorder must mail certified copies of the resolution to the chairmen of the county and state parties.