

Chapter 1.20 CAMPAIGN REFORM

1.20.010 Findings and purpose.

The city council finds and declares each of the following:

A. It is in the public interest for voters to know who is contributing to campaigns for local office and to campaigns for city measures.

B. It is in the public interest that candidates and committees aiding such candidates, and sponsors or opponents of city measures, make a full and fair declaration containing a disclosure of the persons making contributions and the amounts of each contribution. (Ord. 1622 § 1, 1994)

1.20.020 Definitions.

Unless the term is specifically defined in this chapter or the contrary is stated or clearly appears from the context, the definitions set forth in Government Code Sections 81000 et seq., as they appear in 1994 shall govern the interpretation of this chapter.

A. “Campaign statement” means an itemized statement prepared by a candidate for city office and by any committee showing, in addition to matters otherwise required by law, the name, complete mailing address, occupation and place of employment, and business address if self-employed, of any person who:

1. Paid, loaned, contributed or otherwise furnished \$25.00 or more, or its equivalent, to the candidate or any committee for the use of such candidate or such committee directly or indirectly, in aid of the candidate’s election, or for the qualification, passage or defeat of any measure, and the amount, in detail, of such money or its equivalent each such person paid, loaned, contributed or otherwise furnished.

2. Purchased any tickets cumulatively totaling \$25.00 or more, for any fundraising event, regardless of the number of tickets purchased, the value of each ticket, or frequency of purchase.

3. Donated \$25.00 or more to any “kitty” at any campaign event.

B. “City offices” include mayor and city councilmembers.

C. “Committee” means any persons organized to conduct or aid the election campaign, including fundraising events, of any candidate for city office, or for the support or defeat of a measure under consideration in the city.

D. “Election” means any election held in the city of Pleasanton for city office or for a measure.

E. “Person” means an individual, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, syndicate, business, trust, company, corporation, association, committee, and any other organization or group of persons acting in concert. (Ord. 1622 § 1, 1994)

1.20.030 Filing of verified campaign statements.

A. Each candidate for city office and each committee shall file campaign statements. The contributions and expenditures listed therein shall be cumulative for each election. The due dates and the contribution and expenditure periods shall be as provided in Article 2, Chapter 4, Title 9 of the Government

Code, beginning with Section 84200. In addition, a campaign statement shall be filed four days prior to an election and shall report all contributions received and expenditures made seven days prior to an election.

B. Each campaign statement is to be filed electronically on the due date by 5:00 p.m. (Ord. 2065 § 1, 2013; Ord. 1969 § 1, 2008; Ord. 1966 § 1, 2008; Ord. 1622 § 1, 1994)

1.20.040 Criminal misdemeanor actions.

Any person who knowingly or wilfully violates this chapter is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Ord. 1622 § 1, 1994)

Chapter 1.22 VOLUNTARY CAMPAIGN EXPENDITURE LIMITATION

1.22.010 Findings and purpose.

By meeting residents, business owners and community members in person, candidates will not need to rely as heavily on mass media communication, and therefore campaign expenditures can be voluntarily reduced. (Ord. 1968 § 1, 2008)

1.22.020 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, definitions set forth in the Political Reform Act, Government Code Sections 82000 et seq., shall apply with the addition of the following:

- A. “Election” means any municipal election, whether general or special, at which the offices of mayor and/or council member are to be filled.
- B. “Election period” means that period of time:
 - 1. For general elections, from January 1st of the calendar year of the general election, until December 31st of the calendar year of the general election.
 - 2. For special elections, from the date that the city council calls for the special election, until 60 days after the special election.
- C. “Organization or committee” includes an independent expenditure committee. (Ord. 1969 § 2, 2008; Ord. 1968 § 1, 2008)

1.22.030 Voluntary campaign expenditure limitation.

A. The voluntary expenditure limit for candidates for the office of council member or mayor in a general election, cumulated with the expenditures of such candidates’ controlled committees, shall be one dollar for each registered voter within the city, subject to adjustment as provided in subsection C, based on the number of registered voters in the city last reported by the county elections official to the Secretary of State on or about 150 days prior to the general election, for the election period.

B. The voluntary expenditure limit for candidates for the office of council member or mayor in a special election, cumulated with the expenditures of such candidates’ controlled committees, shall be one dollar for each registered voter within the city, subject to adjustment as provided in subsection C, based on the number of registered voters in the city last reported by the county elections official to the Secretary of State on or about the date when the special election is called by the city council, for the election period.

C. In addition to the voluntary expenditure limit changing based upon the variation in the number of registered voters in the city, the one dollar voluntary expenditure limit shall also be cumulatively adjusted based upon the Consumer Price Index.

D. Each candidate for the office of council member or mayor may voluntarily pledge to adhere to the expenditure limitation set forth in this section by signing and submitting an original voluntary pledge, on the form provided by the city clerk, simultaneously with the candidate filing nomination papers for office. (Ord. 1968 § 1, 2008)

1.22.040 Verification of compliance.

Each candidate and candidate's controlled committee which has taken the voluntary expenditure limitation pledge set forth in Section 1.22.030 shall execute a verification, in a form provided by the city clerk, stating that such candidate or candidate's committee did not make any cumulative expenditure in excess of the amount established by Section 1.22.030. Such verification shall be filed with the city clerk along with each campaign statement required by Section 1.20.030 of this code. (Ord. 1968 § 1, 2008)

1.22.050 Violation.

Any violation of this chapter shall not be subject to penalty or citation. (Ord. 1968 § 1, 2008)