TOWN OF MALABAR
ELECTION NOVEMBER 3, 2020

The Town of Malabar will hold its municipal election on Tuesday, November 3, 2020, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at which time the Mayor and three (3) Council Members (Seats 1, 2 and 3) will be elected to serve their respective four or two year terms. Due to the approval of the referendum question on the 2016 ballot, the candidates for Districts 1, 2 and 3 must not only qualify from their respective Districts but now must be voted on ONLY BY those electors residing in their respective Districts. The Mayor continues to be elected “at-large”.

The Qualifying period starts on July 28, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. and runs until 4:30 p.m. August 11, 2020. Forms will be available from the Office of the Town Clerk and online during this time period and may only be filed during this period.

REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY AS A CANDIDATE
All persons desiring to announce and qualify as a candidate for office in Malabar must meet the following criteria:

- Be a resident of Malabar for six (6) months got Council, one year for Mayor.
- Candidates for Districts 1, 2 and 3 must reside within their District at time of qualifying and throughout the election and term of office.
- Complete the Qualifying Paperwork and Oath of Candidate
- Select a Campaign Treasurer and name a bank for campaign financing
- All candidates must collect signatures from a minimum of 15 registered voters within their District. The candidates for Mayor may collect signatures Town wide.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk at 321-727-7764.
TOWN OF MALABAR
MEMORANDUM

Date: May 18, 2020
To: 2020 Candidates for Malabar Office
From: Debby K. Franklin, Town Clerk/Treasurer
Ref: General Information about Malabar

This information is submitted to assist in your understanding of Town operations.

The Town's land coverage is 11.5 square miles but this acreage includes water in the Indian River Lagoon out to the Intercostal, approximately 1.5 acres in size. The upland land based geography is approximately ten (10) square miles. The eastern Town limits is the Indian River Lagoon, the northern boundary just north of the Yellow Dog Café running on the south side of the canal dividing Palm Bay and Malabar. The southern boundary runs just south of Rocky Point Road and runs due west to Benjamin Road, Reese Road and ultimately Osage Road rights of way that intersect with Babcock Street. There are two addresses on the north side of Valkaria Road that are within Malabar jurisdiction. There are also three parcels that belong to Brevard County on the north side of Valkaria Road. The western boundary is a jagged line that includes the Health First facility on Malabar Road and working its way out to Babcock Street just south of where I-95 crosses it.

INTERESTING HISTORICAL POINTS

- Malabar got its 1st official Post Office and name on December 24, 1883 when R.A. Ward was named Postmaster by President Chester A. Arthur.
- Malabar incorporated in 1927 as the City of Malabar but by Special Law was dissolved by the Florida State Legislature in 1935.
- Malabar again incorporated as the City of Malabar in 1962 but changed the name to Town of Malabar under the misunderstanding that municipalities in Florida with populations under 300 had to be known as towns.
- Town's Charter was based on similar charters of neighboring communities and was officially received by the Florida Department of State in the 1980's.
POPULATION

The Town’s population is 2,979 as of April 1, 2020. This number is provided to the Town annually from the University of Florida Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) per a contract between the University and the State. This is considered the official population the State uses in the formulas for revenue sharing and any other revenue distributions. The Fiscal Year 2010/2021 State revenues will be based on this population.

TYPE OF GOVERNMENT

Malabar, by Charter, has determined they desire a Strong Council form of government, placing the representative government responsibility in the five (5) elected members of Council from within five separate districts in ensure all of Malabar was represented. Council complied with an ordinance adopted in 1981 that stated that Council members should live in five separate areas of Town. The Mayor is the “titular” head of the Town, and, in case of natural emergency or disaster would be the point person in charge of the major decisions. During normal operations, the Mayor is the Ceremonial head of the Town and is the Public Relations contact for the media.

The five (5) members of the Council determine the direction and operation of the day-to-day as well as the long-range plans for the Town. Most items requiring action on the agenda of a Council Meeting would require a simple majority of those five members. Some land use and budgeting issues may require four of the five members vote to prevail.

ELECTIONS

Until 2017 Town elections had been “at large” meaning that all voter vote for all representatives. In 2016 Malabar voters approved a referendum question mandating that going forward only the registered voters within a designated “district” area could vote for their representative. Council Members serve a two-year term and are limited to three consecutive terms. Districts 1, 2 and 3 are up for election in the even years; Districts 4 and 5 are up for election in the odd years. In 1997, the Mayor’s term transitioned from a two-year term to a three-year term and then in 2000 and thereafter, the Mayor’s term has been for a four-year term with a limit of two consecutive terms.

As a point of information, most local level, "municipal" elections in Florida are “at-large” meaning the entire elected body was responsible to all the residents for the operations of the municipality.

EMPLOYEES

The Town currently has 17 fulltime positions and three part-time positions. In addition, we contract for our legal, engineering, and planning work. The Town Manager is the Chief Operating Officer and also serves as Code Enforcement Officer. All Department Heads report to the Town Manager. The Town Manager reports to the Town Council.

The Town Clerk/Treasurer is a Charter Officer and serves as the Secretary to Council, the Elections Officer and the head of the Finance Department. This position is responsible for all public records, archiving, records retention. The Clerk/Treasurer reports to Town Council.