

**CITY OF POLSON
RESOLUTION 2019-#006**

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A 2019 GENERAL ELECTION AND NOTIFYING THE LAKE COUNTY
ELECTION ADMINISTRATOR OF ITS DESIRE TO CONDUCT THE 2019 CITY GENERAL ELECTION
BY MAIL BALLOT IN ACCORDANCE WITH §13-19-202, MCA**

WHEREAS, §13-19-202, MCA, provides a method for conducting mail ballot elections for local elections; and

WHEREAS, mail ballot elections statically increase voter turnout in elections by removing barriers that keep people from getting to the polls, give voters more time to study candidates and issues and has built in safeguards that increase the integrity of the election process; and

WHEREAS, the Lake County Election Administrator has informed the City that the costs of conducting a mail ballot are less than the costs of conducting a polling place election; and

WHEREAS, the Lake County Election Administrator has informed the City that the costs of a manually counted ballot versus an electronically counted ballot is less due to printing costs; and

WHEREAS, the City of Polson will hold a General Election for three (3) expiring City Commission seats on November 5, 2019, as required by §13-1-104 (2) MCA and §13-1-405, MCA; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to §13-19-104, MCA, such elections can be conducted by a mail ballot election; and the Lake County Election Administrator has determined that a mail ballot election conducted in accordance with the provisions of §13-19-1 through §13-19-3, MCA, is in the best interests of the City of Polson and the electors thereof, pursuant to §13-19-202, MCA; and

WHEREAS, the Election Administrator shall prepare a written plan, including a timetable, for the conduct of the election and shall submit it to the Secretary of State at least 60 days prior to the date set for the election in accordance with §13-19-205, MCA; and

WHEREAS, an official ballot will be mailed to every qualified elector of the City of Polson, Montana with the goal of increasing voter participation in the municipal election for 2019; and

WHEREAS, for any election conducted by mail ballot, the ballots must be mailed no sooner than the 25th day and no later than the 15th day before Election Day and all ballots must be mailed the same day in accordance with §13-19-207, MCA.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The City of Polson City Commission hereby notifies the Lake County Election Administrator of its intent to conduct the 2019 General Election on November 5, 2019 by mail.
2. The City Commission requests that the ballots be on a form that can be manually counted instead of electronically counted to save additional costs.
3. The City Commission requests ballots be mailed twenty-five (25) days before the election.
4. Except as provided in §13-19-204, MCA, the decision to conduct an election under the provision of §13-19-202, MCA is within the sole discretion of the Election Administrator.
5. The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Lake County Election Administrator in accordance with the provisions of §13-19-202, MCA.
6. Within five (5) days of receiving this request, the Lake County Election Administrator shall respond to the City of Polson City Clerk in writing, stating that this request is either granted or denied for reasons specified. If granted, the Election Administrator shall prepare a plan as provided in §13-19-205, MCA.

Passed and Adopted this 5th day of August, 2019.

Paul Briney, Mayor

ATTEST:

Cora Pritt, Clerk of the City of Polson