

**ORDINANCE NO. 611**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR THE DATE OF THE ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION IN MARCH, 2016, TO COINCIDE WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY; ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED QUALIFYING PERIOD FOR CANDIDATES; PROVIDING FOR SUPREMACY OF THIS ORDINANCE OVER ALL ORDINANCES INCONSISTENT WITH OR IN CONFLICT WITH THIS ORDINANCE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-199(a), the Town Commission may change the date of its annual election from the second Tuesday in March to the date that the State of Florida holds its Presidential Preference primary; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2015-5, Laws of Florida, was enacted by the Florida Legislature to amend Section 103.101(1) to provide that Florida Presidential Preference primaries would be held on the third Tuesday of March; and

WHEREAS, the third Tuesday in March in the year 2016 is March 15, 2016; and

WHEREAS, current state and federal laws require overseas and military absentee ballots to be mailed forty-five (45) days prior to state or federal elections; and

WHEREAS, Section 103.101(3), Florida Statutes, requires the Department of State to certify to each supervisor of elections the name of each candidate for political party nomination to be printed on the ballot no later than December 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Supervisor of Elections of Palm Beach County has notified the County's municipalities that the deadline for municipal candidate names shall also be December 15, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the shifting of the date of the Presidential Preference primary and the date by which the Supervisor of Elections needs the names of the Town's candidates for the Town's annual March election in order to meet necessary ballot deadlines requires the Town to establish its proposed candidate filing deadline in time to meet the Supervisor's deadline.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Findings of Fact.** The WHEREAS clauses set forth above are adopted herein as findings of fact.

**Section 2. Election Date.** The annual election of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, for the year 2016, shall be held on the date of the State of Florida's Presidential Preference primary election, that date being March 15, 2015.

**Section 3. Candidate Qualifying Period.** The candidate qualifying period for the Town's March 15, 2016, annual election shall be from noon, November 24, 2015, until noon, December 8, 2015.

**Section 4. Primacy of Ordinance.** This Ordinance shall have primacy over and shall supersede any provisions of the Town's Charter or Ordinances inconsistent with or in conflict with the provisions set forth herein.

**Section 5. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon

FIRST READING this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June, 2015.

SECOND AND FINAL READING this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

Commissioner Bonfiglio offered the foregoing Ordinance and its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lucibella and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

GEOFFREY A. PUGH, Mayor	<u>Yea</u>
DR. LYNN ALLISON, Vice Mayor	<u>Absent</u>
GAIL ADAMS AASKOV, Commissioner	<u>Yea</u>
JAMES A. BONFIGLIO, Commissioner	<u>Yea</u>
RICHARD J. LUCIBELLA, Commissioner	<u>Yea</u>

The Mayor thereupon declared this Ordinance approved and adopted by the Town Commission of the Town of Ocean Ridge, Florida, on second reading, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2015.

TOWN OF OCEAN RIDGE, FLORIDA

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

GEOFFREY A. PUGH, MAYOR

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Karen E. Hancsak, Town Clerk