



City of Tarpon Springs

Municipal Election Information

March 10, 2026

The material contained in this information sheet and other literature is not comprehensive in nature. If you are running for office, it is your responsibility to become acquainted with Florida election laws that might have a bearing on your campaign or qualifications to run for office. Please contact the qualifying officer for additional information.

Election Date/Type of Election: March 10, 2026/Municipal General Election

Offices up for Election: (Non-Partisan):

<u>Seat</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Qualifying Officer</u>
Commissioner Seat # 1	David Banther *	\$ 11,500 annual	Irene S. Jacobs, CMC City Clerk & Collector City of Tarpon Springs
Commissioner Seat # 2	Frank DiDonato*	\$ 11,500 annual	410 N. Ring Avenue Tarpon Springs, FL 34689 Phone: (727) 943-3536

*(Incumbents are announced candidates)

Term of Office: Three Years (limited to two terms)

Candidate Requirements:

- At least 18 years of age. (FS 97.041)
- A registered voter of Tarpon Springs (FS 97.041; City Charter, Section 11; TS 2-10; 2-12)
- A citizen of the United States
- A legal resident of the State of Florida and Pinellas County
- A continuous resident of Tarpon Springs and have physically resided therein for at least one (1) year prior to the final day of qualifying for such office. (City Charter, Section 11)
- Cannot hold another elective or appointive office, whether state, county or municipal, the term of office for which the candidate seeks to qualify, unless candidate resigns from such office, not less than ten (10) days prior to the first day of qualifying for the office he/she intends to seek. This section does not apply to persons serving without salary as members of an appointive board or authority (FS 99.012(3), City Charter, Section 2-11 (b))

Filing (Announcing) to Run:

Announcing candidacy can be done prior to qualifying period.

Contact Irene S. Jacobs, City Clerk & Collector/Qualifying Officer at (727) 943-3536, to obtain all forms required for candidacy, along with pre-qualifying and qualifying packets, and Form 1 instructions.

Filing (Announcing) to Run (Continued):

DS-DE 9 - Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository

- Candidates must file this form prior to opening a campaign account.
- This form is not effective until the campaign treasurer signs it, and it is filed with the filing Officer.
- This form is not considered “filed” upon mailing.
- This form shall be on file with the filing officer prior to the candidate opening a bank account and accepting any contributions or making any expenditures or authorizing another to accept contributions or make expenditures on the person’s behalf.

Name of the office being sought may be changed by the candidate only until the last day of qualifying (*FS 106.021*).

Campaign checking account must be designated pursuant to (*FS 106.21*)

DS-DE 84 – Statement of Candidate – (attesting you have read and understand campaign finance law) must be filed within (10) days after filing Form DS-DE 9.

Qualifying for City Office: (*qualifying time is thirty (30) days*)

Monday, October 27, 2025 - Candidate Filing Begins - 8:00 a.m.

Wednesday, November 26, 2025 – Candidate Filing Ends - 5:00 p.m.

Filing Fees (Commissioner)

City Qualifying	\$ 25.00
1% State Assessment	\$ <u>115.00</u>
	\$ 140.00

(Check must be drawn from the Campaign Account)

(Write-In Candidates must complete qualifying process. A blank space will be provided on the ballot for the name of a qualified write-in candidate to be written in; however, his or her names does not appear on the ballot. Voters may vote for a write-in candidate by writing the candidate’s name and office on the ballot).

and;

Petition: 25 executed petition cards from qualified electors (*City Charter, Section 11b, TS 2-12*)

and;

Candidate Oath

2023 Form 1 — You must file the Form 1 online first and then provide a copy to our office during the Pre-Qualifying/Qualifying Period. If you have any questions regarding how to fill out this form, you may contact the Commission on Ethics at 850-488-7864.

Compliance: Must comply with: Federal & Florida Election Laws, Public Disclosure and Conflict of Interest Act, City Charter, and City Code of Ordinances.

Missing or Incomplete Information: If the filling officer receives qualifying papers during the qualifying period prescribed in this section which do not include all items required by paragraph (a) prior to the last day of qualifying, the filling officer shall make a reasonable effort to notify the candidate of the missing or incomplete items and shall inform the candidate that all required items must be received by the close of qualifying. A candidate’s name as it is to appear on the ballot may not be changed after the end of qualifying. The filling officer performs a ministerial function in reviewing qualifying papers. In determining whether a candidate is qualified, the filling officer shall review the qualifying papers to determine whether all items required have been properly filed and whether each item is complete on its face, including whether items that must be verified have been properly verified pursuant to FS 92.525 (1) (a). The Filling officer may not determine whether the contents of the qualifying papers are accurate. FS 99.061 (7) (b & c)