



CITY OF GARDNER MASSACHUSETTS CITY CLERK

JUNE 2, 2020 SPECIAL CITY PRELIMINARY
AND
JUNE 30, 2020 SPECIAL CITY ELECTION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The information contained in this document and an Early Ballot Application was mailed to every registered voter (as of April 13) at the mailing address provided on their registration.

RESCHEDULED ELECTIONS

- Due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency, the City Council voted on May 4 to postpone the Special Preliminary to **Tuesday, June 2** and the Special Election to **Tuesday, June 30**. *(The Special City Preliminary was originally scheduled for April 7 and rescheduled to May 12. The Special Election was originally scheduled for May 5 and rescheduled to June 9).*
- The elections will determine who will serve as Mayor through 2021, with the Special Preliminary election deciding the two candidates whose names will appear on the **June 30, 2020** ballot.
- Since the ballots were already printed for the originally-scheduled April 7, 2020 Special Preliminary, the April 7 ballots are valid and are being used for the rescheduled **June 2 Special Preliminary Election**.
- The Special Preliminary Specimen Ballot and other election information are available on the City's website at www.gardner-ma.gov/186/Election-Voting-Information.

POLLING HOURS

On both special election days, the polls will be open from **10:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.** Safety procedures will be implemented at each poll location for the protection of poll officials and voters.

POLLING LOCATIONS

- Ward 1, Precincts A and B.....Elk's Home, 31 Park Street
- Ward 2, Precincts A and B ... Levi Heywood Memorial Library, 55 W. Lynde Street
- Ward 3, Precincts A and B Acadien Social Club, 193 Parker Street
- Ward 4, Precincts A and B Police Headquarters, 200 Main Street
- Ward 5, Precincts A and B Knights of Columbus, 110 South Main Street

→ Voters in **Precinct 3B** are advised that their longtime polling place at the High Rise has been relocated for these two special elections due to the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

CONTINUED ON OTHER SIDE

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

EARLY VOTING

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, recent special legislation allows voters to cast their ballots by mail through **Early Voting**.
- If you choose to vote by mail, please complete the **2020 Municipal Election Early Ballot Application** and return it by utilizing **only one** of the following methods:
 - Mail to **City Clerk, 95 Pleasant Street, Room 121, Gardner, MA 01440**.
 - Drop into the **Drop Box** in front of City Hall.
 - Fax to **978-630-2589**.
 - Scan the completed Application and e-mail to elections@gardner-ma.gov.
- Please submit your application as soon as possible so that there is ample time for your ballot to be mailed to you and for you to return it to the City Clerk's Office before 8:00 p.m. on the day of each special election. Any ballot received after 8:00 p.m. cannot be counted.
- The Application Form or other method requesting an Early Ballot **must have your signature**; otherwise, a ballot cannot be mailed to you.
- The Early Ballot Application is valid for both special City elections, so that you do not have to send another Application for the **June 30 Special Election**.
- The Official Absentee Ballot is being used for the Early Ballot.
- The **Ballot Return Envelope** is prepaid, so that the Voter does not need to apply postage.

ABSENTEE BALLOTING

- If a voter already received a Preliminary Election ballot as a result of an **Absentee Ballot Application**, the Voter does not have to apply for an Early Ballot.
- An Absentee Ballot will be mailed to the Voter if the Voter chose to receive an Absentee Ballot for both the Preliminary Election and the Special Election on their Absentee Ballot Application form.

QUESTIONS

Contact the City Clerk's Office at **978-630-4058** or by e-mail at elections@gardner-ma.gov.