

Example City Election Optical Scan Primary Ballot for August12, 2025 City Primary per M.S. §§205.17, subd. 1, 204B.36, 412.02, 412.191, subd. 1, M.R. 8250.1810

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 4: “...**Instructions to voters.** Under the heading at the top of each side of the ballot, the words “Instructions to Voters:” must be printed in bold and in as large as practicable but no smaller than 12-point bold type. The words “To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ● “ or a similar wording or mark if a different target shape is used by the electronic voting equipment must follow and be printed in as large as practicable but no smaller than 8-point bold type....”

M.S. §205.17, subd. 3: “**Primary ballots...**No blank spaces shall be provided for writing in the names of candidates.”

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 16: “The names of candidates to fill vacancies at a special election for...municipal offices must be listed under the heading “Special election for (name of office),” followed by “To fill vacancy in term expiring (date)” with the name of the office, the date of expiration of the term, and any other information necessary to distinguish the office...Vacant offices being filled by special election must be listed with other offices of that type but after any offices for which a candidate will be elected for a full term...”

M.S. §412.02, subd. 1: The City Clerk and the City Treasurer each serve 4 year terms but they are not to be elected the same year. Therefore, even though both the offices are on the Example Ballot only one should appear on the actual August 12, 2025 Primary Ballot.

NOTE: Additional instructions apply for bond and/or levy referendum ballot notices. M.S. §§275.61; 275.60(a)

Official Ballot

Judge _____

Judge _____

Primary Election Ballot
City Election Ballot
City of _____
August 12, 2025

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

City Offices
Optional: City Name

Mayor
Optional: City Name
Vote for One

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

Special Election for Mayor
To fill vacancy in term
expiring January 3, 2028
Vote for One

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

City Questions

To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word “Yes” on that question. To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word “No” on that question.

City Question

The Question Title Must Consist of Ten or Fewer Words

The body of the question is printed here in upper and lower case letters, as large as possible, but in no case smaller than 10 point type. The title must be printed in the same section as the body of the question to which it refers, and must also be in no smaller than 10 point type. “Yes” and “No” must be placed directly below and no smaller than 10 point and bold.

Yes

No

Council Member
If Required: Ward *n* or District *n* or At Large
Vote for Up to Two

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

Special Election for Council Member
If Required: Ward *n* or District *n* or At Large
To fill vacancy in term expiring January 3, 2028
Vote for One

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

City Clerk or City Treasurer

Vote for One

Candidate

Candidate

Candidate

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 3: “At the top of a ballot containing only nonpartisan offices, the words... “**Primary Election Ballot**” shall be printed, except for first-class cities which may use an optional heading...”

M.R. 8250.1810, subp.5: “When more than one of the following types of offices is on the ballot, the offices must appear on the ballot in the following order and must be identified as follows: ... **City Offices** **City Questions...** The name or the number of the appropriate municipality, school district, or special district may be added directly under the office types listed in this subpart.”

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 6: “The offices must appear on the ballot in the following order and must be identified as follows in as large as practicable but no smaller than 10-point bold type. The office title must be shaded with a screen of at least ten percent: ... “**Mayor**” “**Council Member**” “**City Clerk**” “**City Treasurer**” “**City Questions...**” Where nonjudicial offices are designated by number, those offices must be listed in numerical order and must be printed directly under the title of the office...If an office is not to be filled at a general election, the office must not appear on the ballot...”

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 6: “...If on the same ballot with other offices of the same type, offices elected at large must include “At Large” following the office identification and must be listed before other offices of the same type elected by district...”

M.R. 8250.1810, subp. 1: “...Each ballot must have printed on it both the name of the precinct and an electronically readable precinct identifier or ballot style indicator. A ballot style used in more than one precinct may have the names of all precincts in which it is used printed on the ballot. If multiple ballots styles are to be used in the same precinct for precincts split by school districts, each ballot style must include the precinct name and applicable school district number...”

M.S. §206.61, “subd. 4. **Order of candidates.** ...On the... ballot prepared for the general election the order of...names of candidates for election shall be the same as required for paper ballots. More than one column or row may be used for the same office or party. Electronic ballot display and audio ballot readers must conform to the candidate order on the optical scan ballot used in the precinct.

Subd. 5. **Alternation.** The provisions of the election laws requiring the alternation of names of candidates must be observed as far as practicable by changing the order of the names on an electronic voting system in the various precincts so that each name appears on the machines or marking devices used in a municipality substantially an equal number of times in the first, last and in each intermediate place in the list or group in which they belong. However, the arrangement of candidates’ names must be the same on all voting systems used in the same precinct. If the number of names to be alternated exceeds the number of precincts, the election official responsible for providing the ballots, in accordance with subdivision 1, shall determine by lot the alternation of names. If an electronic ballot marker is used with a paper ballot that is not an optical scan ballot card, the manner of alternation of candidate names on the paper ballot must be as prescribed for optical scan ballots in this subdivision.”