



2024 NOVEMBER ELECTION REFERENDUMS

LIVE AT 9 BREAKDOWN BY MIKE CARPENTER, CARPENTER CIVIC STRATEGIES PRINCIPAL

Ordinance 5884 (Run-off for Mayor)

Requires a majority run-off for mayoral elections.

Supporters say: Ensures the mayor has majority support.

Opponents say: Low turnout in run-offs may benefit obscure candidates; costly to hold another election.

- **Yes:** Mayoral candidates need over 50% to win; run-off election if less than 50%.
- **No:** Candidate with the most votes wins.

Ordinance 5893 (Set Salaries)

City Council can set salaries for Mayor, City Council, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), and Appointed Directors and Deputy Directors.

Supporters say: Council sets tax rate, approves budget. Should have more say.

Opponents say: By Charter the Mayor is the CEO. Weakens his authority.

- **Yes:** Council sets salaries.
- **No:** Mayor and Council continue to set salaries jointly according to ordinance.



Ordinance 5913 (Eligibility Requirements)

Sets minimum age and residency for Mayor/Council.

Supporters say: Ensures experienced candidates connected to the community.

Opponents say: Excludes younger or new residents and community leaders willing to move into the city if elected.

- **Yes:** Must be 18+ and a 2-year resident.
- **No:** Current rules remain.

Next 3 can only take effect if the legislature allows it.

Ordinance 5908 (Handgun Rules)

Requires handgun permits and secure firearm storage.

Supporters say: Enhances public safety through regulation.

Opponents say: Violates the 2nd Amendment; concerns about misuse.

- **For:** Want the legislature to allow Memphis to require a permit and secure storage.
- **Against:** Want the legislature to keep the law as it is now.



Ordinance 5908 (Assault Rifle Ban)

Bans possession and sale of assault rifles in Memphis.

Supporters say: Reduces assault rifle availability, potentially preventing mass shootings.

Opponents say: Violates the 2nd Amendment right to keep and bear arms

- **For:** Want legislature to allow Memphis to ban assault rifles.
- **Against:** Want legislature to keep the current laws.

Ordinance 5908 (Protection Orders)

Allows courts to temporarily seize firearms from dangerous individuals.

Supporters say: Removes firearms from domestic abusers and mentally ill in some cases.

Opponents say: Concerns about misuse, violation of due process rights, and "slippery slope."

- **For:** Want legislature to allow temporary seizure of firearms in certain cases.
- **Against:** Want legislature to keep current laws.