

November 22, 2013

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The votes from the Nov. 5 City bond/charter election will be manually recounted Saturday, Nov. 23.

The recount of the four bond propositions and the 12 charter propositions was requested by Philip Sanders. Sanders submitted a petition to Mayor Ken Shetter on Nov. 19. The signatures of 25 registered voters qualified to vote in the City's election were required. More than two dozen names were submitted. The petition was reviewed and approved by the mayor on Nov. 20.

When asked why Sanders asked for this recount, he responded, via email, "I have requested a recount by hand for the Nov. 5 election because there is no receipt or proof that the electronic voting machine counted my vote or anyone else's correctly. I am having a hard time believing that the people of Burleson, Texas, would continue to allow their elected officials, to spend borrowed money, at the expense of the taxpayers."

All ballots submitted for the 16 propositions will be hand counted. The total voter turnout was 1,748. If you are interested in being part of the recount and you were a registered voter on or before Nov. 5, you can earn \$10 an hour to participate. The recount will begin at 9 a.m.

Three out of four of the bond propositions passed. Proposition 1 for the issuance of \$12,840,000 tax bonds for street and public mobility improvements passed by 65.8 percent. Proposition 2 for the issuance of \$1,800,000 tax bonds for acquisition of public safety radio equipment passed by 65.3 percent. Proposition 3 for the issuance of \$5,000,000 tax bonds for police station facility acquisition and improvements passed by 67.6 percent. The only bond proposition to fail was Proposition 4, for the issuance of \$750,000 tax bonds for economic development: Nola Dunn Gymnasium restoration. That proposition was voted down by 61.4 percent of the voters.

Of the 12 charter propositions, the approval rate ranged from 88.5 percent (Proposition #11/conflict of interest) to 63.3 percent (Proposition 2/city council).

Sanders was required to put down a \$300 deposit for the recount. Those who sign up to help with the manual recount will be paid \$10 an hour. Up to 15

counters are needed. If you are interested in being part of the recount process, email mayor@burlesontx.com. Check-in time is 8:45 a.m. at 141 W. Renfro St. Once the recount begins, you will not be allowed to leave until it is complete. Those involved in the recount will not be allowed to have any cell phones or recording devices in the room where the counting is taking place.

To see the official results of the Nov. 5, 2013 bond/charter election, go to <http://tinyurl.com/pfek87b> on the City website. The City mailed out a four-page newsletter about the bond/charter election the first week in October. That newsletter is posted on the city website at <http://tinyurl.com/nbbcesy>.