

Feasibility Study of City of Milton

Conducting Its Own Municipal Elections

December 5th, 2022

Milton Election Feasibility Committee:

City Council: Rick Mohrig and Paul Moore

Citizens: Mark Amick and Lisa Cauley

City Staff: Stacey Inglis and Tammy Lowitt

Estimated Costs for Milton to Conduct its Own Municipal Election

Equipment & Supplies

The following table depicts the initial, one-time cost for the necessary equipment and supplies per polling location

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST (each)	TOTAL
Voting booths	10	119	\$ 1,190.00
Voting booths ADA	1	174	\$ 174.00
Ballot Box	1	4119	\$ 4,119.00
Locked Storage box for absentee ballot	1	1124	\$ 1,124.00
Secure bags for provisional	1	82	\$ 82.00
Secure Bag Challenge ballots	1	82	\$ 82.00
Poll Manager's bag	1	42	\$ 42.00
Large bag for securing election supplies	1	390	\$ 390.00
Sub-Total			\$7,203.00

Advanced Voting Initial one-time

costs for supplies needed for advanced voting to provide the required separation of ballots from Election Day ballots.

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST (ea)	TOTAL
Secure bag for absentee ballots transfer	1	95	\$95.00
Secure bag for provisional ballots	1	82	\$82.00
Secure bag for challenge ballots	1	82	\$82.00
Sub-Total			\$259.00

**Printing/
Other Costs**

Estimates for recurring costs associated with printing, ballot preparation, and setup, postage, and advertising.

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST (each)	TOTAL
Voting Ballots	8926	.37	\$3,302.62
Ballot Prep	1	3,850.00	\$3,850.00
Ballot Set up	1	250	\$25.00
Postage for Absentee Ballots	1	200.00	\$200.00
Advertising	4	150.00	\$600.00
		Sub-Total	\$ 8,202.62

Committee suggests having a contingency fund for unforeseen expenses which may occur. The amount for the initial year of conducting an election would be higher than future years. The committee did not determine a specific amount. A suggested amount is TBD but should be no more than \$5,000.

Cost Summaries

Recurring Staffing Costs – Advanced Voting

Advanced Voting (1 location)

	Quantity	Cost (ea.)	Total
Poll Manager	1	23.00	\$5,658.00
Asst. Poll Mgr.	2	18.50	\$9102.00
Poll Workers	3	17.00	\$12,546.00
Sub-Total			\$27,306.00

One Time Costs – Advanced Voting

Advanced Voting (1 location)

	Quantity	Cost (ea.)	Total
Secure bag – absentee ballot transfer	1	95.00	\$95.00
Secure bag – provisional ballots	1	82.00	\$82.00
Secure bag – challenge ballots	1	82.00	\$82.00
Sub-Total			\$259.00

Election Day Recurring and Staffing Costs

Election Day per Location (17 hours)

	Quantity	Cost (ea.)	Total
Poll Manager	1	23.00	\$391.00
Asst. Poll Mgr.	2	18.50	\$629.00
Poll Workers	5	17.00	\$1,445.00
Training	16	\$40.00	\$640.00
Security/Police	1	\$935.00	\$935.00
General Office Supplies	1	\$500.00	\$500.00
Sub-Total			\$4,040.00

General
Recurring Costs

Costs associated with Ballot preparation and set up, as well as postage and advertising by the city.

* Number of ballots printed reflect 200% of the highest turn out. This is consistent with other Georgia Cities.

ITEM	QUANTITY	COST (ea)	TOTAL
Voting Ballots	*8926	.37	\$3,302.62
Ballot Prep	1	\$3,850.00	\$3,850.00
Ballot Set up	1	\$250.00	\$250.00
Locked Storage box for absentee ballot	1	1124	\$ 1,124.00
Postage for Absentee Ballots	1	\$200.00	\$200.00
Advertising	4	\$150.00	\$600.00
Election Assistance	1	\$ 13,000 est.	\$13,000
		Sub-Total	\$21,202.62

First Year Cost

Cost Group	Cost	# of locations	Total Cost
General Recurring Costs	\$8,202.62		\$21,202.62
Advanced Voting Recurring Costs	\$27,306	1	\$27,306.00
Advanced Voting One Time Costs	259	1	\$259.00
Recurring Costs Election Day per location	\$4,040	2	\$8,080.00
One Time Costs Election Day per location	\$7,703	2	\$15,406.00
Total First Year Costs			\$72,253.55

In Summary:

The total cost for the first year of conducting a municipal election, with the one-time costs, and two Election Day polling locations would be \$72,253.55. *(This estimate does not include potential hiring of First Year part time election consultant/assistant.

Future Election Cost

Cost Group	Cost	# of locations	Total Cost
General Recurring Costs	\$8,202.62		21,202.62
Recurring Costs – Advance Voting	\$27,306	1	\$27,306
Recurring Costs – Election Day per location	\$4,040	2	\$8,080
	Total Recurring Costs for Future Elections		\$56,588.55

In Summary:

The future recurring cost for each election with two Election Day polling locations is estimated \$56,588.55.

Election Feasibility Findings Summary

2019 Fulton County Milton Election Costs	General Election	\$41,758
2021 Fulton County Milton Election Costs	General Election	\$84,671
	Increase: + 42,913 (103%)	
2023 Projected Fulton County Milton Election Costs	\$186,344 to \$189,655	
	Increase: + \$101,673 to \$104,984 (120% to 124% from 2021)	

Milton Conducts 2023 General Election	Estimated cost \$72,254	Savings \$ 114,090 to \$117,401 (61% to 62%)
* Includes OTC Start-up Costs		
Milton Future Elections	Estimated cost \$56,589	Savings \$129,755 - \$133,066 (70%)

Note: Any potential run-off election would have additional savings for the City of Milton.

Election Feasibility Findings Summary

The City of Milton should start conducting our own elections starting in 2023.

Significant Savings for Milton Taxpayers by Conducting our Elections in 2023 and in the Future.