

Proposed Revisions to the Castle Rock Election Code

June 2, 2026



Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article I

Previously Article II-IV and VI-VII

Replacing Existing Code

- Articles II through IV - Address mail ballot, coordinated, and polling place elections
- Articles VI and VII - Address election controversies and offenses

These Articles echo State law and staff recommends adopting them by reference

Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article I

Adopting Two Statutes by reference

- Uniform Election Code of 1992 (UEC) Title 1 - Govern regular elections
- Municipal Election Code of 1965 (MEC) Title 31 - Govern special elections

Town Maintains our Home Rule Powers including:

- Retain - Role of our Election Commission
- Retain - Our Nomination Petition process
- Changed - Deadlines for write-in candidates and canceling an election – coincide with Ballot Certification deadlines
- Added - Definition of partial terms

Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article II

Previously Article V

As a Home-Rule municipality, we are not required to comply with the Fair Campaign Practices Act and can adopt our own Charter, Ordinances, or Resolutions

(Article XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution and the Fair Campaign Practices Act (FCPA), Section 1-45-101, et seq., C.R.S.)

Home Rule Campaign Finance – Retain Town-specific laws

- Disclosure of campaign expenditures and contributions
- No restrictions on contributions

Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article II

Campaign Contributions and Expenditures

- Added - Registration and reporting by Political committees (*support or oppose candidates*),
- Added - Reporting of Independent expenditures for candidates
- Retain - Registration and reporting by Issue committees (*support or oppose ballot questions*) – *raised reporting limit based on recent court ruling*

Complaints Filed

Retain process for the Town Clerk to process complaints

Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article III

New Article

Citizen Petitions

Brought these into our Code to allow us to standardize the process:

- Recall elected officials
- Home rule charter amendments
- Initiate ordinances
- Reconsider ordinances through referendum

Castle Rock Municipal Code

Chapter 2.01, Article III

Standardize Citizen Petition Process

Statutes require four different formats, circulation periods, due dates, curing processes and validation timeframes. The amendment simplifies and standardizes the process:

- Added - Standard petition form, deadlines, process, etc. for all petitions
- Added - Town Clerk provides the petition form
- Retains - Town-specific requirements from our Charter
- Retains - The Town Clerk determines the sufficiency of each petition

If petitions are sufficient, Council to accept it or move it to appear on the ballot.

In Summary

As Home-Rule, we maintain our ability to amend our Code

Most changes reorganize the Code for ease of reference, formatting, consistency in terms, etc.

- Added - Adopt Title 1 and Title 31 statutes as already in our Code
- No changes - Candidates petitions and financial reporting
- Added - Policy committees and Independent Expenditures
- Added - Definition of partial terms for Town Council
- Added - Standardize citizen initiative petition process
- Changed - Deadlines for write-in candidates and canceling elections to coincide with ballot certification deadlines

Recommendation

The Town Clerk and Town Attorney recommend Town Council adopt the revised Chapter 2.01

Any questions or comments?

Proposed Motion

“I move to adopt the Ordinance as proposed.”

“I move to amend the Ordinance as follows...”