

2026 Municipal Election – Key Dates Information

2026

Friday, May 1 - Nomination and registration periods begin

- First day to file a nomination paper for the offices of Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Councillor and School Board Trustee
 - once the nomination paper is filed with the Town Clerk, the candidate can start raising and spending money on their campaign
 - preliminary spending limit provided to candidates
 - preliminary contribution limit provided to candidates running for Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor (does not apply to School Board Trustee candidates)
- First day to file a notice of registration as a third party advertiser
 - a third party advertiser cannot raise or spend money on their campaign, not begin advertising, until their registration is certified by the Town Clerk
 - preliminary spending limit provided to third party advertiser upon certification

Friday, August 21 – Nomination Day

- Nominations may only be filed between 9:00 AM and 2:00 PM
- Deadline for candidates to:
 - file a nomination
 - withdraw a nomination
 - change office

Monday, August 24 – Certification of Nomination Papers

- Last day for the Town Clerk to certify candidate nomination papers

Tuesday, September 1 – Voters’ List

- Revision period begins
- Voters’ List available to candidates

Wednesday, September 26 – Certificate of Final Spending Limits

- Final spending limits provided to candidates and registered third party advertisers
- Final self-contribution limit provided to candidates running for Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor (does not apply to School Board Trustee Candidates)



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Saturday, October 3 – Advanced Poll

- Essex Centre Sports Complex, 60 Fairview Avenue West
- 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Wednesday, October 7 – Advanced Poll

- McGregor Community Centre, 9571 Walker Road
- 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Saturday, October 10 – Advanced Poll

- Harrow Centre Sports Complex, 243 McAfee Street
- 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Wednesday, October 14 – Advanced Poll

- Colchester Community Centre, 100 Jackson Street
- 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Friday, October 23

- Last day to register as a third party advertiser

Monday, October 26 – Election Day

- Voting Day
- 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM

Sunday, November 15 – New Term Commences

- New term of office commences

Monday, December 14 – First Regular Council Meeting

- First Regular Council meeting of new term
- Deadline for first council meeting no later than 31 days following start of new term

Thursday, December 31 – End of Campaign Period

- End of campaign period for candidates and third-party advertisers
- Last day to file a Notice of Extension to continue campaigning to erase a deficit



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2027

Tuesday, March 30 at 2 p.m.

- Deadline for candidates and third party advertisers to file the initial financial statement

Wednesday, June 30

- End of extended campaign period

Friday, September 24 at 2 p.m.

- Deadline for candidates and third party advertisers to file the supplementary financial statement (applies only to those who extended their campaign period)