



FRUIT HEIGHTS CITY

CAUCUS NIGHT 2025

RIDGERUNNER Focus Edition

May 2025



WE NEED YOU!

MAY 14
CITY HALL, 7 PM

In a unique system, used in only two cities in Utah, Fruit Heights residents decide who will run for the offices of mayor and city council.

BE PART OF THE PROCESS!

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Q. Why talk about elections so early?

Fruit Heights uses a caucus system, meaning **YOU THE RESIDENTS** decide who becomes a candidate, and it must be finalized in May.

Q. Does it even matter if I attend the caucus?

YES! On average, about 50 people attend Fruit Heights caucus meetings. Those 50 people decide who runs for mayor and city council. Fruit Heights has 4,000+ registered voters.

Q. Isn't it the same old caucus each year?

NO. Following the recent request to change to a primary system, the council voted to keep the caucus but changes were made to the bylaws.

Q. Can I nominate myself for office?

YES! Bylaws governing the caucus now allow individuals to nominate themselves for office.

WHAT HAPPENS ON CAUCUS NIGHT?

Never been to a Caucus Meeting? We need your involvement! What you can expect:

- 1 RESIDENTS SHOW UP ON CAUCUS NIGHT**
- 2 INDIVIDUALS NOMINATE THEMSELVES OR SOMEONE ELSE FOR EACH OPEN OFFICE**
- 3 5-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS ***
- 4 VOTE BY SECRET BALLOT ****

* Each nominee may speak for up to 5 minutes.

** Those with the most votes become final candidates on November's general election ballot.

So, What is a Caucus Meeting, and Why is it Used?

Simply put, anyone wishing to run for office in Fruit Heights must be nominated at a caucus meeting. In an election year, a caucus meeting is held months before the general election in order to nominate candidates. Residents vote to decide who will become the final candidates for the city. This year the office of mayor and two city council seats are up for election.

Those interested in running for office in Fruit Heights, or those wishing to be involved in shaping the city and its future, should plan on attending the caucus meeting. Any resident eligible to vote is invited, welcome, and encouraged to attend the caucus meeting.

Two non-partisan parties, the Pinecone and Sagebrush parties, meet at City Hall. One party meets upstairs in the Council Chambers, and the other meets downstairs in the Banquet Hall. Residents attending may decide which party and meeting they would like to attend.

A chairperson oversees an identical process in each room. Once nominated, a candidate may make a brief presentation. Questions may be asked from the audience.

A vote is taken and each party/room nominates one candidate for each of the available offices.

This process creates six total candidates who will be listed on the November general election ballot. The same bylaws are followed by each party to ensure a fair process.

Following the caucus meeting, the nominated candidates have a filing deadline in which they must officially declare their candidacy to the City/County, and pick up a candidate packet.

Historically, many cities ran elections this way, but most dropped the nominating conventions in favor of primary elections. Members of the Fruit Heights city council recently considered changing to a primary election system. They ultimately decided to stay with the caucus system, but made updates to the bylaws.

- NEW THIS YEAR -

The city council made several changes to the caucus bylaws this year, including:

- Residents may now vote using an absentee ballot
- Individuals DO NOT need to be present to be nominated for office

Questions or comments? Email your city council:
citycouncil@fruitheightscity.com

Local Leaders Make Impactful Decisions

Fruit Heights government is comprised of a mayor and five city council seats. The mayor has administrative and executive responsibility, while the council has legislative responsibility. Council responsibilities include:

- Adopt City Budget
- Approve City General Plan
- Determine Tax and Fee Rates
- Determine Services Provided
- Provide Oversight to City Functions
- Pass Resolutions/ Ordinances

**CAUCUS
MEETING**
MAY 14
7 PM

WILL YOU RUN?

Would you like to run for office? You may nominate yourself, or nominate someone else at the meeting. All nominees must meet the following conditions:

- ★ Be a U.S. citizen at time of filing
- ★ Be a resident of the city for at least twelve consecutive months immediately preceding general election date
- ★ Be a registered voter in Fruit Heights
- ★ Pay \$25 filing fee to the City
- ★ Have not been convicted of a felony
- ★ Have not been declared mentally incompetent

ATTEND CAUCUS NIGHT
MAY 14, 7 PM
CITY HALL

Fruit Heights City - 910 S. MOUNTAIN ROAD - 801-546-0861 - www.fruitheightscity.com
City Council - citycouncil@fruitheightscity.com

Mayor: John M. Pohlman **Council Members:** Gary Anderson, Mark Cottrell
Eileen Moss, Florence Sadler, R. Shon Stevenson