



# HOUSE BILL 264: Partisan Munic. Elect./Haywood & Madison.

2023-2024 General Assembly

**Committee:** House Local Government. If favorable, re- **Date:** March 21, 2023  
refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the  
House

**Introduced by:** Reps. Pless, Clampitt, Kidwell **Prepared by:** Hillary Woodard  
**Analysis of:** PCS to First Edition Staff Attorney  
H264-CSCH-6

**OVERVIEW:** *The Proposed Committee Substitute (PCS) for House Bill 264 would change the method of election for all municipalities in Haywood and Madison Counties from nonpartisan to partisan, beginning in 2023.*

**CURRENT LAW:** The following chart summarizes the current town officers, terms of office, and method of election in the Towns of Canton, Clyde, Maggie Valley, Waynesville, Hot Springs, Mars Hill, and Marshall.

Unit of Government	Officers	Term of Offices	Election of Current Members	Method of Election
Town of Canton	Mayor Board of Aldermen (4 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> four years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years, staggered	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2021 <u>Aldermen:</u> Two elected in 2019 & two elected in 2021	Nonpartisan plurality
Town of Clyde	Mayor Board of Aldermen (4 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> four years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years, staggered	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2019 <u>Aldermen:</u> Two elected in 2019 & two elected in 2021	Nonpartisan plurality
Town of Maggie Valley	Mayor Board of Aldermen (4 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> four years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years, staggered	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2019 <u>Aldermen:</u> Two elected in 2019 & two elected in 2021	Nonpartisan plurality
Town of Waynesville	Mayor Board of Aldermen (4 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> four years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2019 <u>Aldermen:</u> Elected in 2019	Nonpartisan plurality

Jeffrey Hudson  
Director



Legislative Analysis  
Division  
919-733-2578

# House 264 PCS

Page 2

<b>Town of Hot Springs</b>	Mayor Board of Aldermen (3 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> two years <u>Aldermen:</u> two years	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2021 <u>Aldermen:</u> Elected in 2021	Nonpartisan plurality
<b>Town of Mars Hill</b>	Mayor Board of Aldermen (4 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> four years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years, staggered	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2021 <u>Aldermen:</u> Two elected in 2021 & two elected in 2019	Nonpartisan plurality
<b>Town of Marshall</b>	Mayor Board of Aldermen (5 members)	<u>Mayor:</u> two years <u>Aldermen:</u> four years, staggered	<u>Mayor:</u> Elected in 2021 <u>Aldermen:</u> Three elected in 2021 & two elected in 2019	Nonpartisan plurality

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The PCS would provide that beginning in 2023, municipal elections for these towns would be held on a partisan basis as provided in G.S. 163-291. The election would be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November. The primary would be held on the second Tuesday after Labor Day, and the second primary, if required, would be held on the fourth Tuesday before the election.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections conducted in 2023 and thereafter.