

CERTIFICATE ESTABLISHING THE PROPOSED FORM OF GOVERNMENT
FOR THE TOWN OF ST. IGNATIUS, MONTANA

If approved by the majority of the voters the government of St. Ignatius shall be organized under the following provisions of Section 11-703 (4997) R.C.M. 1947.

1. The officers of the town consist of one mayor, elected at large, and two aldermen from each ward, who are elected by the qualified voters of their respective wards, and one treasurer. The mayor shall appoint, with the consent of the town council, one police judge, one marshal, who shall be ex-officio street and water commissioner, and any other officers needed to carry on the business of the town. The town council shall prescribe the duties and fix the compensation of town employees subject to the limitations of state law.

2. The town shall be divided into two wards which each shall elect two council members. The council may change the boundaries or the number of wards by ordinance, with the stipulation that no new ward may be created unless it contains at least one hundred and fifty (150) electors within its boundaries.

3. On the first Tuesday of April of every second year a municipal election shall be held which shall choose a mayor and two council members, each of whom shall hold office for four years and until the qualification of his successor. The terms of the council members shall be alternated so that one member from each ward shall always have two years yet to serve when the other is elected. Each elected treasurer shall serve a four year term.

4. In order to be eligible to the office of mayor a person must be at least twenty-one years of age, a taxpaying freeholder within the limits of the town, a resident of the state for at least two years next preceding his election, and must reside within the limits of the town during his term of office.

5. Terms of aldermen shall be four years, and two aldermen shall be elected at each regular town election, one from each ward. The terms shall be alternated so that one councilperson from each ward shall be always held over until the next election.

6. Terms of all officers elected at a municipal election commence on the first Monday in May after the election.

7. Only persons who are U. S. citizens, and have resided in the town for at least two years, and are qualified electors, are eligible to municipal office, either elective or appointive.

8. Only those who are taxpaying freeholders within the limits of the town, and residents of the ward which elects them for at least one year preceding the election, are eligible for the office of alderman.

9. The town council shall provide for the registration of electors, and may prohibit any person from voting unless he has been registered, provided the prohibition does not conflict with state law.

10. Any qualified elector who has resided in the ward for thirty days is entitled to vote at any municipal election.

11. An annual town meeting shall be convened on the second Tuesday in each January for the purpose of discussing town issues and choosing an advisory committee of three persons, whose function shall be to attend meetings of the town council and present for its consideration any current questions or problems which may arise from time to time.

12. The town meeting shall be open to all citizens of the town regardless of voting qualifications.

13. The town meeting shall choose its advisory committee in the following manner: One committee-person from each ward, and one elected at large without regard to ward boundaries except that they shall be residents within the town limits.

14. The town meeting shall choose a chair-person from amongst its own number as the first order of business at each annual meeting.

We, the study commissioners of St. Ignatius, Montana do hereby certify that this is the proposed alternative plan of local government which will be presented to the voters for their approval or disapproval, and will be placed upon the ballot at the election to be held in St. Ignatius on November 2, 1976.

In testimony whereof we set our hands this 31 day of July, 1976.

Signed: *Richard W. [unclear]*
James P. [unclear]
Melvin [unclear]
St. Ignatius Local Government Review Commission