City Council membership and elections:

The Lakewood City Council includes a mayor elected at-large, and 10 councilors, two from each of the City's five wards.

The City conducts its regular Municipal Election every two years, in odd-numbered years, on the first Tuesday in November. Lakewood has staggered terms; only one council seat from each ward, not two, is up for election in any regular Municipal Election.

The Mayoral Election is held on the same date, but every four years. Both the mayor and the councilors are elected to four-year terms. Elected officials are limited, by City Charter, to two consecutive four-year terms. Terms of office begin at the first City Council meeting following the election.

Requirements to run for City Council:

- 21 years old
- Citizen of the United States
- Resident of Lakewood for at least 12 consecutive months preceding the date of the election
- Registered elector in the city
- Resident of the ward the candidate wants to represent
- Any person elected to City Council must continue to live within the ward from which he or she was elected throughout the term of office. The mayor need only continue to live within the city.

Where do I start if I want to run?

- Read Art. XXVIII of the Colorado Constitution and Title 1, Art. 45 of the Colorado Revised Statutes to fully understand Colorado Campaign and Political Finance procedures and requirements

    - You become a candidate when you publicly announce and thereafter accept a contribution
    - You must file a notarized candidate affidavit with the City Clerk within 10 days of publicly announcing an intention to seek election (forms available from the City Clerk's Office)
    - You remain a candidate – for campaign finance purposes – as long as your committee is open
    - Campaign finance reporting forms are available from the City Clerk's Office
    - Contribution and expenditures reports are due Oct. 15th, Nov. 1st, and Dec. 5th
    - Obtain a Nomination Petition form from the City Clerk's Office on August 5th.
    - You must submit a nomination petition to the City Clerk in order to get your name on the ballot
    - For the November 5, 2013 Regular Municipal Election, nomination petitions may be circulated beginning on August 6th, and ending August 26th.
    - Your petition must be signed by at least 25 registered electors residing within your ward
    - No registered elector shall sign more than one nomination petition for each separate office to be filled

- All Fair Campaign Practices Act reports shall be filed with the Lakewood City Clerk.

For further information about running for office, call Margy Greer, City Clerk, 303-987-7080.