**Municipal Government**

**Is Mississippi a rural state?**

**Why is Mississippi considered a rural place?**

**How does the book define rural?**

**What are municipalities?**

**How are municipalities classified according to size? Cities Towns Villages**

**Any villages in DeSoto County?**

**What is Unincorporated mean?**

* To answer this question we to know what mean to be incorporated.
* Incorporated =
* Unincorporated community, which exists only by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and does not have \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ officials at the town level.

**How does municipality get a charter?**

* Must present a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, signed by two thirds of the qualified voters who reside in the proposed city, to the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ court (the court that deals with land issues).
* Once the chancery court approves the incorporation, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ issues a charter for the new city.

**What needs to be on the petition?**

* Describe the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the city.
* Designate a name.
* Identify the number of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Calculate the assessed value of real property.
* State the reasons for incorporation.
* Identify the services to be offered.
* Identify a list of *interim (temporary) city officials.*

**Incorporated Municipality**

* Legal person
* Can sue or be sued
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Buy and sell property

**Municipal Government Services**

* Maintaining roads and bridges
* Providing police
* Fire protection
* \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Recreation facilities
* Street lighting
* Furnishing health
* Sanitation services

**3 Forms of Municipal Government**

**Mayor-Council Form**

* Has a mayor and a board of alderman.
* Number of alderman can vary from 5 to 7.
* Alderman represents districts called wards.

**2 types of Mayor-Council**

Mayor-council governments are described as either a weak mayor type or a strong mayor type, depending on the powers granted the mayor.

**Weak mayor (Mayor-alderman)**

* Mayor and the aldermen together decide whether other officials, such as the clerk or tax collector, are elected or appointed.
* The mayor shares many administrative powers with the aldermen and other officials.
* Budget preparation would be a joint effort.

**Strong mayor (Mayor-Council)**

* The mayor has the power to hire and fire city employees.
* The mayor has a stronger role in preparing the budget.
* The mayor presides over the council meetings and has veto power, which the council may override.

**What type is Olive Branch?**

* **Mayor =**

The Board consists of seven members, one each being elected from the city's six wards along with one at-large member.

**Commission Form**

* A mayor and at least \_\_\_\_\_\_ commissioners.
* The mayor presides over commission meetings but has no veto power.
* The mayor is the official representative of the city.
* The mayor generally administers the police and fire departments.
* The commissioners head specific departments of city government.

**Commission Form in Mississippi**

* There were close to five hundred cities using a commission form of government by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
* Jackson, Mississippi, adopted the commission form of government in 1912 followed by nine other Mississippi cities.
* Today, only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ use the commission form of government

**Jackson, Mississippi**

* Jackson, Mississippi, adopted the commission form of government in 1912.
* Jackson, the state capital, changed to a strong mayor-council form of government in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**Council-Manager Form**

* Mayor and council, which in turn, hire a city manager.
* The mayor presides over council meetings.
* The mayor represents the city at most functions.
* The council is the policy-making body for the city.
* The manager handles the day-to-day operations, hires and fires city employees, prepares the budget, and attends council meetings but cannot vote.

**Which form of Municipal Government is used the most in Mississippi?**

**What is annexation?**

**Other Forms of Local Government**

* Mississippi Planning and Development Districts (PDDs).
* Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
* Levee districts.
* Drainage districts.
* Port commissions.

**What is ad valorem tax?**

**Real property=**

**Personal property=**

**The financial needs of the local government, determines the** **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**What is a mill?**

**Other City Taxes**

* Cities receive 18.5 percent of the sales tax revenues collected within their boundaries.
* Cities can levy a tax on certain types of businesses and items.

**Homestead Exemption**

* State law gives homeowners on their primary residence a tax break. (If you file for **Homestead Exemption.**)
* You may apply for Homestead Exemptions during the months of January, February and March of each Year.
* If you are over 65 by January 1st, you qualify for additional tax exemption.
* 100% disabled individuals qualify for additional tax exemption.