



ORDINANCE NO. 20-0728-01

AN ORDINANCE CALLING AND ORDERING AN ELECTION BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF WHITEHOUSE, TEXAS, ON TUESDAY THE 3rd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING MAYOR (TWO YEAR TERM) AND TWO COUNCILMEMBERS (TWO YEAR TERMS) TO COUNCIL PLACES TWO AND FOUR.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHOUSE, TEXAS:

SECTION I.

That in compliance with the various stipulations of the Whitehouse City Charter and the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas, an election be and is hereby called and ordered for the FIRST TUESDAY in the month of November, 2020 the same being the 3rd day of said month, at which election all qualified voters may vote for the purpose of electing a Mayor and two Councilmembers for two year terms.

SECTION II.

The Smith County Election's Administrator shall prepare ballots to be used in said election with the names of the candidates for the position of Council members. The Places of the different Council members shall be designated on the Official Ballot as Member of Council, Place Number 2, Place Number 4, and Mayor.

SECTION III.

That no person's name shall be placed upon the Official Ballot as a candidate for the position of a member of the City Council unless such person has filed a sworn application, as provided by the Whitehouse City Charter and the laws of Texas, with the City Secretary at least seventy-eight (78) days prior to the election date, and it must appear on the face of the application, NUMBER of the PLACE of the Council member that said candidate is seeking.

SECTION IV.

That it shall appear to the City Secretary, before said candidate's name is entered on the Official Ballot, that he/she has filed an affidavit of loyalty with the City Secretary, as required by the Whitehouse City Charter and the Election Code of the State of Texas.

SECTION V.

That in the event that there are two or more candidates for the same Council member's PLACE as MEMBER OF COUNCIL, the position of such candidates' name on the Official Ballot shall be

determined by a drawing of candidates. However, in the event that there is only one candidate seeking each Council member's PLACE as MEMBER OF COUNCIL, as soon as possible after the filing deadlines for placement on the ballot and on the list of write-in candidates, the City Secretary shall certify in writing that all candidates are unopposed for the election, the governing body of the political subdivision by order or ordinance may declare each unopposed candidate elected to office, thereby cancelling the election.

SECTION VI.

Pursuant to a Joint Election Agreement, Smith County shall be responsible for a voting system that complies with law. Smith County shall be responsible for the preparation of the official ballots for the election, and they shall conform to the requirements of the Code, and in so doing shall permit the voter to vote for one (1) Mayor and two (2) Council Members for two (2) year terms each. No voter shall vote for more than one (1) Mayor and two (2) Council Members for two (2) year terms each.

SECTION VII.

That any candidate receiving a majority of all votes cast for the office for which he/she is a candidate shall be elected to such office. In the event of a tie, the MAYOR shall cause said tie to be resolved in compliance with the provisions set aside in the Whitehouse City Charter and the Texas Election Code.

SECTION VIII.

Early voting by personal appearance will be held on the following dates and times:

Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 24	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, October 25	12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Monday, October 26 – Friday, October 30	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

And shall also include any additional dates and times as mandated by the Governor of Texas and/or the State of Texas.

The POLLING PLACE shall be kept open from 7:00 o'clock A.M. to 7:00 o'clock P.M. on election day and that due return be made to the CITY COUNCIL showing the number of votes cast for each candidate for the position of COUNCIL.

The Early Voting Clerk for this election shall be as follows:

Smith County Elections Administrator
Smith County Elections
302 E. Ferguson
Tyler, TX 75702

SECTION IX.

That this ordinance, signed by the COUNCIL and attested by the City Secretary, shall constitute the ordinance of the, COUNCIL calling, and ordering said election, and that such notice shall be published by the City Secretary in accordance to Texas Election Code and the City of Whitehouse Charter.

SECTION X.

That the POLLING PLACE for this election except insofar as they may be changed by the CITY COUNCIL, shall be as follows and/or any and all locations designated by Smith County Elections:

POLLING PLACE:

Whitehouse Municipal Court / Council Chambers
311 E. Main
Whitehouse, TX 75791

SECTION XI.

That this Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Whitehouse, Texas, on this 28th day of July 2020.



Charles Parker, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Susan Hargis, City Secretary