

ORDINANCE NO. 605

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF PANHANDLE, TEXAS, ORDERING THAT THE GENERAL AND SPECIAL ELECTION SCHEDULED TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020, BE POSTPONED TO TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020; MAKING FINDINGS RELATED THERETO; AND PROVINDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on or about March 13, 2020 the Governor of the State of Texas certified that the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) poses an imminent threat of disaster and, under the authority vested in the Governor by Section 418.014 of the Texas Government Code, declared a state of disaster in every county in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, on or about March 18, 2020, the Governor issued a Proclamation suspending certain sections of the Texas Election Code, among others, to allow political subdivisions of the State that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to postpone general and special elections to the next uniform election date, November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, on or about January 9, 2020, the city adopted Resolution 2020-01 which, in part, ordered a general election for Saturday, May 2, 2020, to elect Mayor and two members to the City Council and a special election to vote on the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Panhandle at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ (one-quarter) cent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets; and

WHEREAS, City Council believes that it is in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of its citizens to postpone the May 2, 2020 general election, and has the authority to do so pursuant to the authority of the Governor's March 13, 2020 disaster declaration and the March 18, 2020, proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PANHANDLE, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1

All of the above findings are hereby found to be true and correct and are hereby incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2

The general election scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2020, for the election of Mayor and two members to the City Council and a special election to vote on the reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Panhandle at the rate of $\frac{1}{4}$ (one-quarter) cent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal

streets is hereby postponed until Tuesday, November 3, 2020, pursuant to the authority referenced in the Preamble of this Ordinance, and it is hereby so ordered.

SECTION 3

Pursuant to Election Advisory No. 2020-12, issued by the Texas Secretary of State's Office on or about March 18, 2020, the following orders are adopted:

- (1) the previous filings for the May 2, 2020, general election shall remain valid for the November 3, 2020, general election;
- (2) the filing period will not be re-opened for the November 3, 2020 general election;
- (3) all applications for ballots by mail filed for the May 2, 2020 election that are marked annual remain valid for the postponed election.
- (4) all applications for a ballot by mail for voters who are voting by mail due to being over the age of 65 or due to disability will remain valid for the postponed election; however, all applications for a ballot by mail based upon a voter's expected absence from the county will not be valid for the postponed election;
- (5) the major relevant dates for the November 3, 2020, general election are as follows:
 - a. deadline for registration to vote in the November 3, 2020, election is October 5, 2020;
 - b. the deadline to submit an application for a ballot by mail is October 23, 2020; and
 - c. the early voting period shall be October 19, 2020, through October 30, 2020.

SECTION 4

This Ordinance shall become effective from and after its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED, on this the 9th day of April, 2020, at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Panhandle, Texas, which meeting was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Tex Gov't Code, §551.001, et.seq. at which meeting a quorum was present and voting.

Doyle Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Veronica Willburn, City Secretary