

CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS
GENERAL ELECTION ORDER

ORDINANCE 2024-O-001

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A GENERAL ELECTION ON MAY 4, 2024, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THREE (3) COUNCIL MEMBERS; AND PROVIDING DETAILS RELATING TO THE HOLDING OF THE ELECTION.

WHEREAS, the laws of the State of Texas provide that on May 4, 2024, there shall be a general election for municipal officers; and

WHEREAS, the terms for three (3) City Council Members At-Large are scheduled to expire at the next uniform election date.

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

SECTION 1. ELECTION

- A. A General Election is called and ordered for May 4, 2024, at which election the qualified voters of the City of Blanco may vote for the purpose of electing three (3) City Council Members At-Large.
- B. Candidates for the above offices may file their application beginning at 8:00 a.m. January 17, 2024 and shall file their applications no later than 5:00 p.m. February 16, 2024, on the 78th day before the date of the election, as provided in Sections 141.031 and 143.007 of the Texas Election Code. All candidates for the offices to be filled in the election to be held on May 4, 2024, shall file their sworn application with the City Secretary of the City of Blanco at City Hall, 300 Pecan Street, Blanco, Texas, said applications shall be on a form as prescribed by the Election Code of the State of Texas.

The City Secretary shall note on the face of each application the date and time of its filing. All applications shall include a clear reference to the office the candidate is seeking.

- C. The present boundaries of the City of Blanco shall constitute one election precinct. The polls shall be open for voting 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the following countywide polling places:

ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES

First Baptist Church-Fellowship Hall
1200 4th Street
Blanco, TX 78606

Good Shepherd Catholic Church
285 281 Loop
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco Courthouse Annex-Hoppe
101 E. Cypress Street
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco South Annex
402 Blanco Avenue
Blanco, TX 78636

SECTION 2. APPOINTMENTS

- A. The Election Officer is authorized to appoint the Presiding Election Judge, and the Alternate Presiding Election Judge. The Election Officer is authorized to appoint additional alternates, if necessary. The Presiding Judge at each polling place shall have the authority to appoint no more than two (2) clerks to assist in the holding of the election, but in no event serve as the early voting ballot board for the election and the Presiding Judge of the election precinct shall also serve as the presiding officer of the Early Voting Ballot Board. The Board shall process early voting results in accordance with the Texas Election Code. Compensation for each Election Judge(s) and Clerks shall be in accordance with Section 32.091 and 32.092 of the Texas Elections Code.
- B. The City Secretary is hereby appointed clerk for early voting. The City Secretary is authorized to appoint a deputy clerk or clerks for early voting in accordance with Chapter 83, Subchapter B of the Election Code.

SECTION 3. EARLY VOTING BY MAIL

Blanco County Elections Officer shall serve as Early Voting Clerk for the purpose of receiving ballot applications for ballots to be voted by mail. Ballot applications submitted by mail shall be addressed to the City's Early Voting Clerk at the following address:

Early Voting Clerk
P. O. Box 13
Johnson City, Texas 78636

SECTION 4. EARLY VOTING BY PERSONAL APPEARANCE

A. The City Secretary shall serve as the Early Voting Clerk for early voting by personal appearance. The Early Voting Clerk shall have the authority to designate such deputy early voting clerks as may be necessary to staff the Early Voting Polling Places established under this Order.

B. The places for early voting for the election shall be:

EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACES

Blanco County Courthouse-Hoppe Room
101 E. Cypress Street
Johnson City, TX 78636

Blanco County South Annex
402 Blanco Avenue
Blanco, TX 78606

C. The election clerks shall keep the office open from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., for early voting on each day that which is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or an official state holiday, beginning April 22, 2024, and continuing through April 30, 2024 for early voting by personal appearance. The clerks shall not permit anyone to vote early by personal appearance on any day which is not a regular working day for the Blanco County Elections office, and under no circumstances shall they permit anyone to vote early by personal appearance at any time when such office is not open to the public. The Blanco County Elections mailing address is P.O. Box 13, Johnson City, Texas, 78636 where ballot applications and ballots voted by mail may be sent. The early voting clerk shall maintain a roster listing each person who votes early by personal appearance and each person to whom a ballot to be voted by mail is sent, in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code. The roster shall be maintained in a form approved by the Secretary of State.

SECTION 5. CONDUCT OF ELECTION

- A. Electronic voting shall be used for the election, both in early voting and for voting on election day, in accordance with the Election Code. The use of at least one (1) voting station that complies with Section 61.012 of the Texas Election Code, which provides a practical and effective means for voters with physical disabilities to cast a secret ballot is hereby authorized.
- B. A central counting station is established at the place designated in Blanco County Annex-Conference Room at 101 E. Cypress, Johnson City, TX 78636 . The Election Officer will be appointed at the Central counting station manager and the Election Clerk will be appointed at the Tabulation Supervisor.
- C. All expenditures necessary for the conduct of the election, the purchase of materials, and the employment of all election officials are hereby authorized in accordance with the Election Code. The Election Officer is hereby authorized and directed to furnish all necessary election supplies to conduct the election.
- D. The order in which the names of the candidates are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by a drawing by the City Secretary, as provided by Section 52.094 of the Election Code. The City Secretary shall post a notice in her office, at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date on which the drawing is to be held, of the time and place of the drawing, and shall also give personal notice to any candidate who makes written request for such notice and furnishes to the City Secretary a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Each candidate involved in the drawing, or a representative designated by such candidate, shall have a right to be present and observe the drawing.
- E. The three (3) City Council Member candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to such positions.
- F. Notice of this election shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Election Code. The Mayor shall issue all necessary orders and writs for such an election and returns of the election shall be made to the City Secretary immediately after the closing of the polls.
- G. All election materials shall be printed in English and Spanish as required by Section 272.001 of the Texas Election Code.
- H. The election shall be held in accordance with the applicable requirements of the Texas Election Code. If any provisions of this ordinance conflicts with a mandatory provision of the Election Code, it is the intention of the City Council that the provision of the Election Code shall control.

SECTION 6. CANVASSING OF RETURNS

The Election Officer shall make a written return of the Election Results to the City Council in accordance with the Election Code. The City Council shall canvass the returns and declare the results of the Election in accordance with the Texas Election Code.

SECTION 7. AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE

The Mayor of the City of Blanco is authorized to execute, and the City Secretary is authorized to attest this Ordinance on behalf of the City Council. The Mayor is further authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the ordering, holding and consummation of the Election.

SECTION 8. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY

Should any of the clauses, sentences, paragraphs, sections or parts of this Ordinance be deemed invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable by a court of law or administrative agency with jurisdiction over the matter, such action shall not be construed to affect any other valid portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION 10. PROPER NOTICE & MEETING

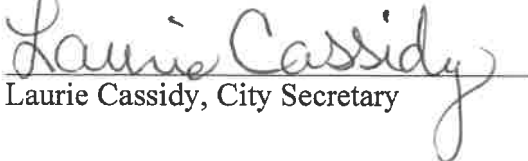
A quorum of the City Council was present at the meeting at which this Ordinance was adopted. The meeting was open to the public and public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

PASSED & APPROVED this, the 13 day of February, 2024, by a vote of 4 ayes, 0 nays, 1 abstentions of the City Council of the City of Blanco, Texas.

CITY OF BLANCO, TEXAS


Mike Arnold, Mayor

ATTEST:


Laurie Cassidy, City Secretary

