



AGENDA
ELGIN CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2020
CITY ANNEX COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 310 NORTH MAIN STREET
5:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. INVOCATION

IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Individuals may request to speak on items on the agenda, and items not on the agenda, by requesting to speak during the meeting and under "PUBLIC COMMENT" and will be required to fill out a "PUBLIC COMMENT FORM" and present it, along with any material, handouts or information for Council, to the City Secretary prior to commencement of the Council meeting. Speaker comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

No formal action can be taken by the City Council on items not posted on the agenda. Items requiring a Public Hearing will allow a member of the public an opportunity to speak during the Public Hearing and does not require submission of a "PUBLIC COMMENT FORM." Speakers must address their comments to the Mayor or Presiding Officer rather than to an individual Council Member or member of Staff. All speakers must limit their comments to the specific subject matter noted on the "PUBLIC COMMENT FORM" and refrain from personal attacks or derogatory comments directed at any Council Member, member of Staff, other individual or group.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- 1. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, POSTPONING THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2020, UNTIL NOVEMBER 3, 2020; EXTENDING TERMS UNDER THE HOLDOVER PROVISION OF THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION; AND ORDERING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF SUCH ELECTION**

Documents:

[EX SUMMARY - POSTPONE ELECTION.PDF](#)
[RESPOSTPONEELECTION32020.PDF](#)

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The City Council may announce that it will adjourn the public meeting at any time during the meeting and convene in Executive Session pursuant to Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code to discuss any matter as specifically listed on the agenda and/or as permitted by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

VIII. RECONVENE

The City Council will return to open session for possible discussion and action as a result of the Executive Session

IX. ADJOURMENT

Notice of Assistance at Public Meetings, the City of Elgin is committed to compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Elgin City Hall and Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible and special marked parking is available. Persons with Disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who may need assistance are requested to contact the City Secretary's Office at (512)229-3222. Please provide forty-eight hours notice when feasible.

I, Amelia Sanchez, City Secretary for the City of Elgin, hereby certify this notice was posted at the City Hall Annex of the City of Elgin, Texas on or before Friday, March 20, 2020, in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

Amelia Sanchez, City Secretary



Elgin City Council Meeting Agenda Item Executive Summary

ITEM: A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, POSTPONING THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2020, UNTIL NOVEMBER 3, 2020; EXTENDING TERMS UNDER THE HOLDOVER PROVISION OF THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION; AND ORDERING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF SUCH ELECTION

DEPARTMENT: City Manager

PROPOSED ACTION:

Consideration and approval of a Resolution postponing the May 2 City Council Election until November 3, 2020.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to a proclamation issued Wednesday, Governor Greg Abbott has authorized all political subdivisions holding general or special elections on May 2, 2020 to postpone their election to the November 3, 2020 uniform election date. This postponement does not happen automatically; as the City Council must take an official action for such a change to be effective.

Governor Abbott's notice further stated, "We are in the middle of a public health crisis that is rapidly changing. Through this crisis, our primary concern is the health and safety of voters, election workers, and our local election officials. As the situation progresses, we stand ready to provide additional guidance regarding the upcoming elections. In the meantime, please continue to send us your questions so that we can revise and update our materials and guidance as necessary."

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPACT:

Funding for this item was { } included { } not included in the current-year budget {X} N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Approval of a Resolution postponing the May 2 Elgin City Council Election until November 3, 2020 as described; and routine direction to staff, if any.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution

- { } Staff will be making a detailed presentation on this agenda item at the meeting.
- {X} Staff will provide brief comments and answer questions on this item at the meeting.
- { } This is a routine procedural item and no presentation is planned for the meeting.

Councilmembers who have any detailed questions or would like to request additional information regarding this item are encouraged to contact the City Manager at their earliest convenience.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-__

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS, POSTPONING THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2020, UNTIL NOVEMBER 3, 2020; EXTENDING TERMS UNDER THE HOLDOVER PROVISION OF THE TEXAS CONSTITUTION; AND ORDERING OTHER MATTERS INCIDENT AND RELATED TO THE POSTPONEMENT OF SUCH ELECTION.

WHEREAS, on January 21, 2020, the City Council (the “Council”) of Elgin, Texas (the “City”), ordered a general election to be held on May 2, 2020 for the purpose of electing members for Mayor at Large, Ward 1, Ward 2, Ward 3, and Ward 4; and

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Governor 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 for all counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.0052 of the Texas Election Code prescribes a procedure for a political subdivision to change a general election date, but the time for making such a change has expired; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Texas issued a proclamation on March 18, 2020, suspending Section 41.0052(a) and (b) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to allow political subdivisions that would otherwise hold elections on May 2, 2020, to move their general and special elections for 2020 only to the next uniform election date, occurring on November 3, 2020, without otherwise adjusting the term of office, and suspending Sections 31.093 and 42.0621(c) of the Texas Election Code to the extent necessary to require all county election officers, if requested by an affected political subdivision, to enter into a contract to furnish election services with any political subdivision that postponed its election to November 3, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Tex. Const. art. XVI § 17 requires officers within the State of Texas to hold over and continue the performance of their duties until their successors shall be duly qualified; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that it is in the public interest to move the City’s election from the May 2, 2020, uniform election date to the November 3, 2020, uniform election date.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. Moving Election Date. The Council is exercising authority granted by the Governor’s proclamation and is hereby postponing the election that would have been held on Saturday, May 2, 2020, to now be held on the next uniform election date, which is Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

Section 2. Effect of Changing Date on Candidate Filings. It is only the date of the election that is being changed. The candidate filing period for the election will not be re-opened for the November 3, 2020, uniform election date. All valid, accepted candidate applications that were filed with the Council for the election that was to be held on May 2, 2020, will remain valid.

Section 3. Effect of Changing Date on Applications for Ballot by Mail. All applications for ballot by mail submitted by voters that are over the age of 65 or disabled will still be valid for the November 3, 2020, election. However, applications for ballot by mail submitted by voters not over the age of 65 or disabled, but based on expected absence from the county, will **not** be valid for the November 3, 2020, election. Applications for ballot by mail for the November 3, 2020, election based on expected absence from the county, and new applications by persons over the age of 65 or disabled, will need to be received by October 23, 2020. Any mail-in ballots already sent out by the early voting clerk that are returned by the voter to the early voting clerk will be valid for the November 3, 2020, election.

Section 4. Effect of Changing Date on Election Deadlines. Updated relevant deadlines and dates for voters for the November 3, 2020, election:

Voter Registration Deadline:	October 5, 2020
Deadline to submit an Application for Ballot by Mail:	October 23, 2020
Dates for Early Voting:	October 19, 2020 – October 30, 2020

Section 5. Effect of Changing Dates on Order of Election. The Council will meet by August 17, 2020 to make any necessary revisions to the City's original resolution ordering the election, which was adopted February 13, 2020. Those revisions may include:

1. The change of the date of the election;
2. Any changes in location of the main early voting location;
3. Any changes to early voting dates and hours, including weekend early voting;
4. Any changes to the identity of the early voting clerk and their contact information; or
5. Any changes to early voting branch locations.

Section 6. Preamble Incorporation. The recitals contained in the preamble hereof are hereby found to be true, and such recitals are hereby made a part of this Resolution for all purposes, and are adopted as a part of the judgment and findings of the Council.

Section 7. Inconsistent Provisions. All orders and resolutions, or parts thereof, which are in conflict or inconsistent with any provision of this Resolution are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict, and the provisions of this Resolution shall be and remain controlling as to the matters ordered herein.

Section 8. Governing Law. This Resolution shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and the United States of America.

Section 9. **Severability.** If any provision of this Resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstance shall be held to be invalid, the remainder of this Resolution and the application of such provision to other persons and circumstances shall nevertheless be valid, and the Council hereby declares that, had the invalidity been known at the time, this Resolution would have been enacted without such invalid provision.

Section 10. **Notice of Meeting.** The Council hereby finds and declares that a written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of the meeting at which this Resolution is adopted was posted on a bulletin board located at a place convenient to the public for at least seventy-two (72) hours preceding the scheduled time of the meeting; that a telephonic or telegraphic notice of such meeting was given to all news media who have consented to pay any and all expenses incurred by the City in connection with providing such notice, both as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Texas Government Code, as amended; and that such meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Resolution and the subject matter thereof was discussed, considered, and formally acted upon. The Governor has suspended and modified certain open meeting requirements pursuant to his disaster declaration. These changes include allowing the City to establish procedures for telephonic or video-conferenced meetings that are accessible to the public.

Section 11. **Authorization to Execute.** The Mayor is authorized to execute and the City Secretary is authorized to attest this Resolution on behalf of the City; and the Mayor is authorized to do all other things legal and necessary in connection with the holding and consummation of the election.

Section 12. **Effective Date.** This Resolution is effective immediately upon its passage and approval.

RESOLVED this __ day of _____, 2020.

CITY OF ELGIN, TEXAS

CHRIS CANNON, Mayor

ATTEST:

AMELIA SANCHEZ, CITY SECRETARY