## **ORDINANCE NUMBER 24-05**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LYTLE, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 4, 2024; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH MEDINA COUNTY TO CONDUCT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF LYTLE; DESIGNATING THE PLACES AND MANNER OF HOLDING THE ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR THE POSTING AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE; PROVIDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING AN OPEN MEETINGS CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

**WHEREAS**, the City of Lytle (the "City") will hold a General Municipal Election for the purpose of electing a Mayor and Alderman District #4 and Alderman District #5 on May 4, 2024 (the "General Election"); and

WHEREAS, the Texas Constitution, the Texas Election Code (the "Code"), and the City Ordinances are applicable to said General Election (hereinafter referred to as the "election"), and in order to comply with applicable laws, an ordinance is required to call and order the elections and establish procedures consistent with the Constitution, State Law, and the City Code; and

WHEREAS, the City has made provision to contract with Medina County to conduct the City's election, pursuant to Chapter 31, Tex. Elec. Code, and Chapter 791, Tex. Gov't Code (the "Contract for Election Services" or "contract"), and such contract provides for political subdivisions subject to the contract that hold election on the same day in all or part of the same territory to hold a joint election as authorized in Chapter 271, Tex. Elec. Code;

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City (the "Council") finds that it is in the public interest that the City enter into a joint election agreement and election services contract with Medina County in order to provide the most efficient and convenient voting opportunities for the City's General Election.

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

**Section 1.** That the recitals to this Ordinance are true and correct and are hereby incorporated into this Ordinance for all intents and purposes.

Section 2. That the general municipal election (the "General Election") of the City of Lytle, Texas (the "City"), for election of the Mayor and Alderman District #4 and Alderman District #5 of the City Council of the City (the "Council") shall be held between seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. and seven o'clock (7:00) p.m. on the 4th day of May 2024, in the corporate limits of the City, as established with Medina County and in accordance with the election laws of the State of Texas, all such arrangements for which are authorized by the adoption of this Ordinance and the executed joint election agreement and election services contract with Medina County.

<u>Section 3.</u> That the present boundaries of the City constitute one (1) election precinct. The polling places for this election precinct shall be as designated by Medina County.

**Election Day Voting Location and Times** 

Lytle Community Center 19031 Priest Dr. Lytle, Texas 78052

May 4, 2024 from 7:00 AM —7:00 PM

<u>Section 4.</u> That the General Election shall be held in accordance with, and shall be governed by, the election laws of the State of Texas. The Council, pursuant to Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, authorizes the Mayor to enter into a joint election agreement with Medina County and other participating political subdivisions for this election. The Mayor is hereby authorized to perform all duties and take all actions as required by any election services contracts or joint election agreements related to the General Election.

<u>Section 5.</u> That any eligible and qualified person may have his or her name placed upon the official ballot of the General Election as a candidate by submitting an application in accordance with Section 141.031 of the Texas Election Code (the "Application"). The Application must be in writing, signed, and sworn to by the candidate and it must indicate that the candidate swears to the Application. The Application may be filed with the City Secretary beginning on January 17, 2024, but not later than 5:00 p.m. on February 16, 2024. Candidate filings will be accepted in person from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Office of the City Secretary, 14916 Main Street, Lytle, Texas 78052; by mail at the Office of the City Secretary, 14916 Main Street, Lytle, Texas 78052; or, by email at paola.rios@lytletx.org.

<u>Section 6.</u> Medina County shall designate the Early Voting Location for early voting for the General Election and shall appoint the Early Voting Clerk and Deputy Early Voting Clerk for early voting in person and voting by mail, who shall, upon approval of an application for ballot by mail related to the General Election, provide balloting materials to the voter in accordance with the election laws of the State of Texas.

<u>Section 7.</u> The Medina County Elections Administrator or designee shall process all applications for mail ballots in accordance with Title 7 of the Texas Election Code. Persons voting by mail will send their marked ballots to the office of the Medina County Elections Administrator. All requests for early voting ballots by mail that are received by the <u>City</u> will be sent by the entity on the day of the receipt to the office of the County Elections Administrator for processing.

Applications for ballot by mail (the "ABBM") shall be mailed or delivered by common or contract carrier within twenty-four (24) hours of receipt to:

Lupe C. Torres
Elections Administrator
1300 Ave. M, Room 108
Hondo, Texas 78861
lupe.torres@medinatx.org

Section 8. That the deadline to hand-deliver an ABBM is Friday, April 19, 2024. The last day for the early voting clerk to receive applications for a ballot to be voted by mail via mail (regardless of postmarked date), common or contract carrier, is Friday, April 19, 2024, in accordance with Section 84.007(c) of the Texas Election Code. If a voter submits an ABBM via fax or email, the Early Voting Clerk must receive an original or a copy with a wet signature via mail within four (4) business days of the submission of the fax or email, in accordance with Section 84.007(b-1) of the Texas Election Code.

**Section 9.** That the places at which Early Voting by personal appearance shall be conducted shall be designated by Medina County. During the lawful early voting period, the Early Voting Clerk shall keep such locations for early voting open for early voting as required by the Texas Election Code, at a minimum.

Early Voting Dates and Times: Monday, April 22, Tuesday, April 23, Wednesday, April 24, Thursday, April 25, Friday, April 26, 2024, Monday, April 29, and Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Early voting will take place from 8:00 AM — 5:00 PM. Saturday, April 27, 2024, Early voting from 9:00 AM — 2:00 PM.

Early Voting Location Lytle Community Center 19031 Priest Dr. Lytle, Texas 78052

**Section 10.** That voting at the General Election, including early voting, shall be by the use of voting machines; and the ballots of the General Election shall conform to the election laws of the State of Texas, as amended. Medina County, via a joint election agreement or election services contract with the City shall obtain, or cause to be obtained, the necessary electronic tabulating equipment, to arrange for the testing thereof as provided by law and to employ a duly qualified manager and a duly qualified tabulation supervisor to perform the duties respectively imposed on them by law with respect to the processing and tabulation of ballots at the Central Counting Station.

**Section 11.** That the *Devine News*, is hereby found and declared to be a newspaper of general circulation in the City; that the City Secretary shall issue a notice of the General Election to be published one time in the *Devine News* not less than ten (10) days, but no more than thirty (30) days, prior to the date of the General Election; and, that in addition to posting in the *Devine News*, a notice of the General Election shall be posted on the bulletin

board at the City Hall of the City not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the date of the General Election and remain continuously posted until the end of the day on the date of the General Election.

<u>Section 12.</u> That the Mayor and the City Secretary are hereby authorized to execute and issue, for and on behalf of the City, such orders, documents, and forms as may, from time to time, be promulgated by the Secretary of State of the State of Texas in conjunction with the General Election.

<u>Section 13.</u> That each and every provision, paragraph, sentence, and clause of this Ordinance has been separately considered and passed by the Council, and each provision would have been separately passed without any other provision; and, if any provision hereof shall be ineffective, invalid, or unconstitutional, for any cause, it shall not impair or affect the remaining portion, or any part thereof, but the valid portion shall be in force just as if it had been passed alone.

Section 14. That the Council officially finds, determines, recites, and declares that sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place, and subject of the meeting of the Council during which it considered this Ordinance was posted at a place convenient to the public at the City Hall of the City for the time required by law preceding this meeting, as required by Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code; and, that said meeting was open to the public as required by law at all times during which this Ordinance and the subject matter thereof was discussed, considered, and formally acted upon. The Council further ratifies, approves, and confirms the contents and posting of such written notice.

**DULY PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED** this the <u>12th</u> day of <u>February</u>, 2024.

Ruben Gonzalez, Mayor City of Lytle, Texas

ATTEST:

Paola L. Rios, City Secretary

City of Lytle, Texas