

ORDINANCE NO 2025-10-03-015

AN ORDINANCE BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SETTLEMENT, TEXAS, CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON DECEMBER 13, 2025, TO FILL A VACANCY IN CITY COUNCIL PLACE 1; APPROVING A JOINT ELECTION WITH OTHER ENTITIES; PROVIDING FOR ELECTION TO BE CONTRACTED WITH TARRANT COUNTY; ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES FOR ELECTION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of White Settlement, Texas ("City"), is a home rule city acting under its charter adopted by the electorate pursuant to Article XI, Section 5, of the Texas Constitution and Chapter 9 of the Local Government Code; and

WHEREAS, upon the vacancy of an unexpired term, a Special Election must be held within one hundred and twenty (120) days from the date of the vacancy [TX. Constitution Art XI § 11]; and

WHEREAS, on October 9, 2025, City Council Place 1 became vacant, with a remaining term exceeding one (1) year; and

WHEREAS, the City Charter provides that in the event a vacancy from any cause in the office of mayor or councilmember with three-year terms, and an unexpired term greater than four (4) months, the City Council shall order a special election called for the purpose of filling the vacancy within one hundred and twenty (120) days after such vacancy or vacancies; and

WHEREAS, Section 201.052 of the Texas Election Code ("Code") provides that a special election to fill a vacancy shall be held on the first authorized uniform election date occurring on or after the 46th day after the election is ordered; and

WHEREAS, no uniform election date falls within one hundred and twenty (120) days of the vacancy, therefore, the City Council is required to conduct a special election no sooner than forty-six (46) days after calling the special election and no later than one hundred and twenty (120) days after the date of the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, in light of the foregoing, the City Council has elected to call a special election to fill the unexpired term of the office of City Council Place 1 for December 13, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to contract through the Tarrant County Elections Administrator for the Special Election should Tarrant County hold a run-off election on that date; and

WHEREAS, the City of White Settlement, along with other cities, and Independent School Districts located entirely and partially within Tarrant County who may also be holding an election on December 13, 2025, desire to conduct joint elections contracted through the Tarrant

County Elections Administrator, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, including the conduct of joint early voting, and to provide for the sharing of expenses.

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

Section 1: Election Ordered. An election is hereby called to elect an individual to the office of City Council Place 1 to serve an unexpired term with a term expiration date of November 2026. The election shall be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the White Settlement Public Library, 8215 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, Texas 76108.

Section 2: Agreement. The Mayor is authorized to execute an agreement with Tarrant County (the "Agreement") for the Tarrant County Election Administrator to conduct the Special Election jointly with other cities and Independent School Districts, if applicable, at such polling places as designated by the Tarrant County Elections Administrator, with the White Settlement Public Library, 8215 White Settlement Road, as one of the polling places.

Section 3: Appointment of Judges. The Tarrant County Elections Administrator will appoint the election judges as authorized by Chapter 271 of the Code.

Section 4: Candidate Filing. Qualified persons may file as candidates by filing applications for a place on the ballot in the office of the City Secretary, with the first day for filing application for place on the ballot being October 22, 2025, and the last day for filing application for place on the ballot being November 3, 2025, during normal business hours. The City Secretary's Office is not required to be open on Saturday or Sunday for either of these activities. In the event the City Secretary is not in her office at the time a qualified person wishes to file for place on the ballot, the City Secretary may appoint a qualified staff member to accept the application on behalf of the City Secretary's Office and follow the same filing procedures as the City Secretary's Office would normally follow. 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. Notice of the time and place for such drawing shall be given in accordance with the Code.

Section 5: Early Voting Clerk. The Tarrant County Elections Administrator, 2700 Premier Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76111 is hereby appointed as Early Voting Clerk. Application for ballot by mail must be received no later than the close of business on December 2, 2025.

Section 6: Early Voting.

- a. Early voting Clerk.** The Tarrant County Elections Administrator is designated as the Early Voting Clerk. Additional Deputy Early Voting Clerks may be appointed, as provided in the Agreement.
- b. Early voting by personal appearance.** Early Voting by personal appearance shall be conducted beginning on December 1, 2025, and continuing through December 12, 2025,

at the White Settlement Public Library, 8215 White Settlement Road, White Settlement, Texas 76108.

Monday, December 1, 2025 to Friday, December 5, 2025: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Monday, December 8, 2025 to Friday, December 12, 2025: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

- c. **Early voting by mail.** Applications for early voting by mail may be delivered to the Early Voting Clerk, 2700 Premier Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76111, not later than close of business on December 2, 2025.
- d. **Early Voting by Ballot Board.** Early voting, both by personal appearance and by mail, shall be canvassed by the Early Voting Ballot Board, which is hereby established and appointed as indicated in the Agreement.

Section 7: Method of Voting. The City Secretary is hereby authorized and instructed to provide and furnish all necessary supplies to conduct the special election, in accordance with this Ordinance and the Texas Election Code. Voting at the election shall be by electronic means.

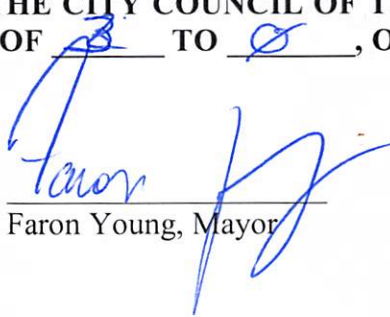
Section 8: Governing Law and Qualified Voters. The election shall be held in accordance with the Constitution of the State of Texas and the Code of Ordinances, City of White Settlement, Texas, and all resident qualified voters of the City shall be eligible to vote at the election.

Section 9: Necessary Actions. The Mayor and the City Secretary of the City, in consultation with the City Attorney, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code in carrying out and conducting the election, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

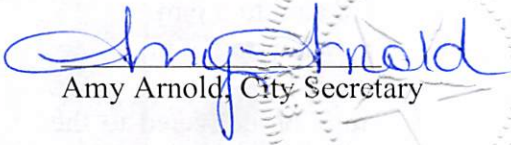
Section 10: Notice. Notice of the special election, including a Spanish translation thereof, shall be given as required by Chapter 4 of the Code: Notice shall be posted not later than the twenty-first (21st) day before the election on the bulletin board used for posting notices of meetings of the City Council and shall be published at least once, not earlier than the thirtieth (30th) day nor later than the tenth (10th) day, before the election in a newspaper published and of general circulation in the City.

Section 11: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its adoption.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITE SETTLEMENT, TEXAS, BY A VOTE OF 3 TO 0, ON THIS THE 21st DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2025.


Faron Young, Mayor

ATTEST:


Amy Arnold, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Alicia K. Kreh, City Attorney