

CITY OF KEENE, TEXAS

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-696

GENERAL ELECTION ORDER FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2026

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEENE, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING PERSONS TO SERVE IN THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS: MAYOR; CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR WARD II; CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR PLACE I, AND CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR PLACE III, ALL FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM; PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE PLACES AND MANNER OF HOLDING SAID ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR THE POSTING AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION ADMINISTRATORS AND JUDGES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Keene, Texas is a Home Rule municipality located in Johnson County, Texas created in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, Section 41.001 of the Texas Election Code, as amended, establishes the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November as the uniform election date which is November 3, 2026, for the purposes of conducting an election within the City of Keene, Texas (“City”); and

WHEREAS, Section 3.004(a)(3) of the Texas Election Code provides that the governing body of a municipality shall be the authority to order a general election for electing municipal officers; and

WHEREAS, the terms of office for Mayor, Council Member for Ward II (which is a geographic ward), Council Member for Place I (which is at-large), and Council Member for Place III (which is at-large), all expire on November 3, 2026, and must be filled by a general election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEENE, TEXAS:

Section 1. Finding.

The facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this ordinance are hereby found and declared to be true and correct legislative findings and are adopted as part of this ordinance for all purposes.

Section 2. Election Order; Election Day; Purpose of Election.

The City Council of Keene, Texas hereby orders that a general election of the City shall be held on November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., at those

designated polling places determined by the Johnson County Elections Administrator, for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect a Mayor for a two (2) year term;
- (2) To elect a Council Member for Ward II for a two (2) year term;
- (3) To elect a Council Member for Place I for a two (2) year term;
- (4) To elect a Council Member for Place III for a two (2) year term;

Section 3. Candidate Filing Deadline.

Eligible candidates for City Council Member for Mayor, Ward II, Place I, and Place III may file with the City Secretary of the City of Keene, Texas ("City Secretary"), for one of open election positions beginning on Saturday, July 18, 2026, until 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17, 2026. The last date and time for a write-in candidate shall be 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 21, 2026.

Section 4. Election Precincts; Polling Places.

All election precincts, early voting sites and Election Day polling sites shall be determined by the Johnson County Elections Administrator pursuant to the Election Services Agreement.

Section 5. Appointment of a Presiding Election Judge, and Alternate Presiding Election Judge; Notice of Appointment.

A Presiding Judge and Alternate Presiding Judge for all designated polling places shall be appointed by the City of Keene City Council, and in accordance with Section 32.009 of the Texas Election Code.

Section 6. Early Voting; Early Voting Polling Place(s).

Early voting shall commence in the Johnson County Elections on Monday, October 19, 2026, (as well as at any other polling site(s) determined by the Johnson County Elections Administrator), and shall close on Friday, October 30, 2026. During the lawful early voting by personal appearance period (October 19, 2026, through October 30, 2026), the City Secretary (or designated personnel of the City's Secretary) shall keep such place(s) for early voting open for early voting as follows:

October 19, 20, 21, 22, 23,	8:00 am to 5:00 pm
October 24 (Saturday)	7:00 am to 7:00 pm
October 25 (Sunday)	10:00 am to 4:00 pm
October 26, 27, 28, 29, 30	7:00 am to 7:00 pm

Section 7. Election Compliance.

This election shall be held in accordance with, and shall be governed by, the election laws of the State of Texas under the jurisdiction of the Election Officer pursuant to an election services contract between the City and the County, and other participating

entities, if any as set out in the Election Agreement for Johnson County and the City of Keene. In all City elections, the Mayor, City Secretary, or City Council shall perform each act to the extent required to be performed, in connection with the holding and consummation of such election.

Section 8. Voting Qualifications; Voting Materials.

All registered qualified voters of the City shall be permitted to vote at the election. In addition, the election materials enumerated in the Texas Election Code, as amended, shall be printed in English and Spanish for use at the polling places and for early voting for the election.

Section 10. Compensation for Services.

The Presiding Election Judge, Alternative Presiding Judge, and each Election Clerk shall be compensated as set out in the Election Agreement for Johnson County and City of Keene, and as determined by the County Elections Office.

Section 11. Notices.

The City Secretary is hereby ordered and directed to give notice of the general election by:

- (a) Publishing the notice of the election at least once, no more than thirty (30) days nor less than ten (10) days before the election in the official newspaper of the City, or between Sunday, October 4, 2026, and Friday, October 23, 2026;
- (b) Filing with the City Secretary, a copy of the notice of the elections;
- (c) Posting a copy of the election notice on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the City Council at least twenty-one (21) days before the election, by Monday, October 12, 2026; and
- (d) Delivering notice of the election to the Johnson County Clerk no later than the 60th day before Election Day, or Thursday, September 3, 2026.

The City Secretary shall file in the City's records a copy of the Publisher's Affidavit, which complies with the Texas Election Code, as amended, that the notice was published, with the name of the newspaper and the dates of publication.

Section 12. Severability Clause; Conflicts with Election Services Agreement.

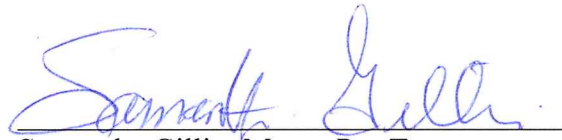
If any word, section, article phrase, paragraph, sentence, clause, or portion of this ordinance or application thereto to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance; and the City Council hereby declares it would have passed such remaining portions of this ordinance despite such invalidity which remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect. Additionally, it is the intent of the City Council by adopting this ordinance to fully comply with the terms of the state election law. Should any conflict arise between any term of this ordinance and state election law, it is the express intent of the City Council that the terms of state election law should control

and govern the administration of the general and special election addressed in this ordinance.

Section 13. Effective Date.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and publication in accordance with and as provided by law and the City Charter.

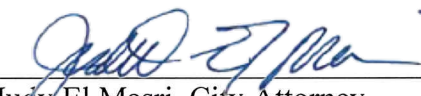
PASSED AND APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Keene, Texas this the 6th day of August 2026.


Samantha Gillin, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:


Holly Russell, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Judy El Masri, City Attorney