

ORDINANCE NO. 2020-4

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, POSTPONING THE CITY'S GENERAL ELECTION TO NOVEMBER 3, 2020, PREVIOUSLY ORDERED FOR THE 2<sup>ND</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2020, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING COUNCIL MEMBER(S) TO THE AMES CITY COUNCIL; AUTHORIZING A JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENT WITH THE LIBERTY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND AN ELECTION SERVICES CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF AMES AND THE LIBERTY COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR TWO TWELVE-HOUR DAYS OF EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION AND NOTICE OF ELECTION; ESTABLISHING OTHER PROCEDURES FOR CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the general laws and Constitution of the State of Texas, and pursuant to an ordinance previously passed by the City Council of the City of Ames, Texas, a general election was ordered to be held on May 2, 2020, for the purpose of electing Council Member(s) to the Ames City Council; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code, on March 18, 2020, the Governor of the State of Texas signed a proclamation suspending certain provisions of the Texas Election Code and the Texas Water Code to allow all local political subdivisions that are utilizing the May 2, 2020 uniform election date to postpone their elections to the November 3, 2020, uniform election date; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Governor's proclamation authorizing the City of Ames to postpone the May 2, 2020 election date, the City Council does by this Ordinance exercise its authority to postpone the General Election ordered for May 2, 2020, for the purpose of electing Council Member(s) to the Ames City Council, to November 3, 2020.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the general election previously ordered for May 2, 2020, for the City of Ames, Texas, for the purpose of electing Council Member(s) to the Ames City Council, is hereby postponed to November 3, 2020.

**SECTION 2.** That the candidate filings for the special election for May 2, 2020, for the City of Ames, Texas, for the purpose of electing Council Member(s) to the Ames City Council, shall remain valid for the election to be held on November 3, 2020, and that the filing period for candidates will not be re-opened for the election to be held on November 3, 2020.

**SECTION 3.** That all annual applications for ballot by mail (ABBM) for voters that are voting by mail due to being over the age of 65 or due to disability will still be valid for the November 3, 2020, election, and that ABBMs for voters who submitted ABBMs based on expected absence from the county shall not be valid for the election to be held November 3, 2020 election.

**SECTION 4.** That the voter registration deadline for the November 3, 2020, election is October 5, 2020, the deadline to submit an ABBM is October 23, 2020, the dates for early voting are October 19, 2020, through October 30, 2020, and that there shall be two twelve-hour days of early voting.

**SECTION 5.** That publication and notice of the November 3, 2020 election shall be provided as required by law.

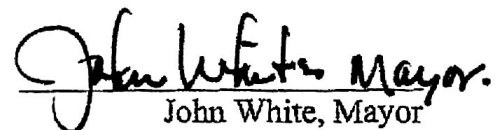
**SECTION 6.** That the City of Ames is authorized to negotiate and execute a joint election agreement with Liberty Independent School District for the purposes of conducting the postponed election on November 3, 2020.

**SECTION 7.** That the City of Ames is authorized to negotiate and execute an election contract with Liberty County for the purposes of conducting the postponed election on November 3, 2020.

**SECTION 8.** That should any word, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of this ordinance be adjudged or held to be void or unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of said ordinance, which shall remain in full force and effect.

**SECTION 9.** This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage as the law in such cases provides.

**DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AMES, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF MARCH, 2020.**

  
John White, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
Lillie Bernard, City Secretary