

ORDINANCE NO. 1164

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STAFFORD, TEXAS, POSTPONING THE GENERAL ELECTION PREVIOUSLY CALLED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2020 TO NOVEMBER 3, 2020 AS ALLOWED BY PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR, IN ORDER TO ELECT CITY COUNCILMEMBERS; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF JOINT ELECTION CONTRACT FOR THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 ELECTION; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the general laws and Constitution of the State of Texas and the Charter of the City of Stafford, Texas, a Municipal Officers' election was ordered to held on May 2, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Governor of the State of Texas declared a state of disaster on March 13, 2020, in order to control the outbreak of the coronavirus disease ("COVID-19"); 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 Stafford 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;

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

SECTION 1: That the Municipal Officers' election previously ordered for May 2, 2020, for the City of Stafford, Texas, for the purpose of electing members of the City Council is hereby postponed to November 3, 2020.

SECTION 2: That the candidate filings for the Municipal election for May 2, 2020, for the City of Stafford, Texas, for the purpose of electing members of the 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 applications for ballot by mail (ABBMs) filed by voters due to being over the age of 65 or because of disability will still be valid for the November 3, 2020, election. However, ABBMs for voters who submitted ABBMs based on expected absence from the county shall not be valid for the postponed November 3, 2020 election.

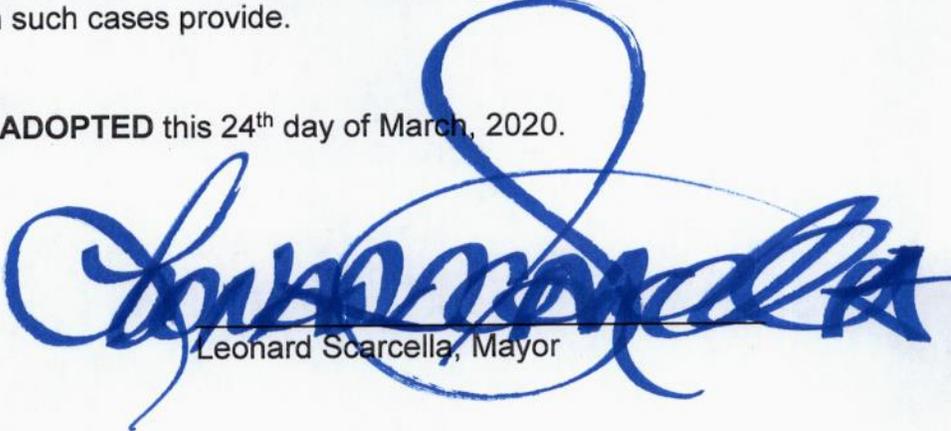
SECTION 4: That the voter registration deadline for the November 3, 2020, election is October 5, 2020. All applications for ballot by mail for the November election must be submitted no later than October 23, 2020. Early voting will be conducted October 19, 2020, through October 30, 2020.

SECTION 5. That the City Secretary is authorized to negotiate and execute an election contract with Fort Bend County for the purposes of conducting the postponed election on November 3, 2020. Fort Bend County will determine the Early Voting Clerk and contact information, main early voting location, early voting dates and hours, including weekend early voting, and branch early voting locations.

SECTION 6. That should any word, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of this ordinance be adjudged or held to be invalid, 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.

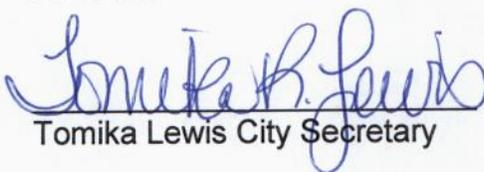
SECTION 7. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage as the law and charter in such cases provide.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 24th day of March, 2020.



Leonhard Scarcella, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tomika Lewis City Secretary