

CITY OF BASTROP

RESOLUTION NO. R-2024 - \_\_\_\_

**OFFICE OF MAYOR**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS,  
ESTABLISHING CITY POLICIES REGARDING CERTAIN  
ASPECTS OF THE OFFICE OF MAYOR**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Bastrop (City Council) has a shared interest in promoting integrity in municipal operations; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 51 of the Texas Government Code the City Council has the authority to take action necessary and proper for the good government, peace, or order of the City of Bastrop; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant Bastrop’s Home Rule Charter Section 1.02, the City Council has the authority to determine the policies of the City; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council passed resolution R-2023-129, authorizing an investigation under the city charter into financial mismanagement allegations made against Visit Bastrop and “certain interactions between particular leaders of the City and of Visit Bastrop;” and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council passed a motion on December 18, 2023, to file an ethics complaint against Mayor Nelson under Bastrop Code of Ethics section 1.15.009(h)(2) for Abuse of Power - Interference with the above-mentioned investigation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bastrop Board of Ethics unanimously determined that Mayor Nelson interfered with the above-mentioned investigation, violating the Bastrop Code of Ethics, and issued a Letter of Reprimand on April 10, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds it to be reasonable and prudent to approve this resolution modifying certain practices and policies, and further determines that Mayor Nelson’s conduct has provided a rational basis for this resolution.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the City Council of the City of Bastrop:

**Section 1:** The City Council hereby approves the following policies:

**1. Expenses for Official Business Trips**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that, in order for the mayor’s actual expenses, advanced expenses, or per diem to be reimbursed by the City, those expenses must first be approved by the City Council.

*Note: The Bastrop Code of Ordinances, Section 1.03. 033 provides: “While on official business trips for the city, the mayor shall be reimbursed for his actual expenses, advanced expenses and/or provided a daily per diem rate as established by the City Council.”*

**2. City funds for Mayor’s Attendance at Events**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that no city funds shall be expended for the mayor’s attendance at any event, function, or convention without prior approval of the City Council.

**3. Mayor’s Office Space**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that the Mayor shall not be provided the exclusive (sole) use of designated (assigned) office space at City Hall. At the City Manager’s discretion, temporary shared workspace and meeting space may be provided to all City Council Members (including the mayor) as needed when available.

**4. Speaking Roles at City Functions**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that City staff shall not schedule or propose the mayor to speak at city or city-sponsored events, outside of City Council Meetings, without prior approval of the City Council.

**5. City Hall Access**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that the mayor shall not be provided an identification badge (door key cards) granting him unassisted access to the Authorized Personnel Only (Employee-Only) areas at City Hall. Instead, all City Council Members including the mayor will have the same access.

**6. Mayoral Contact Information Online**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that direct contact information for the mayor (e.g., telephone and email address) shall not be displayed on the City’s website.

**7. Appointment to Internal or External Boards**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that the mayor shall not serve as a representative of the City on internal or external boards, commissions, committees and task forces (boards). Therefore, to the extent the mayor has been appointed or otherwise designated to serve in a representative capacity by the City Council on boards inside or outside the City of Bastrop organization, those appointments or designations are hereby revoked, shall be interpreted as void, and the seat considered vacant. This shall include, but is not limited to, the Bastrop Economic Development Corporation, CAPCOG, County Public Health Department, Clean Air Coalition, and his role as council liaison to city boards and

commissions.

**8. Legislative Advocacy**

It shall be the policy of the City of Bastrop that the City shall not have a Legislative Director. Therefore, to the extent the mayor has been previously designated or authorized to serve as a spokesperson or advocate the City, that designation is hereby revoked, shall be interpreted as void without having previously received specific authorization in advance from the City Council.

**Section 2:** The meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public, and that public notice of the time, place, and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**DULY RESOLVED & ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Bastrop, Texas, on this, the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 2024.**

**ATTEST:**

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Ann Franklin, City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Alan Bojorquez, City Attorney

**APPROVED:**

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