



TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

DATE: August 18, 2026

FROM: Shannon Montgomery, Town Secretary

AGENDA ITEM: Discuss and consider a Resolution supporting Legislation requiring County Election Administrators to offer annual election services contracts to municipalities for May elections; supporting the integrity, consistency, and professional administration of municipal elections.

SUMMARY:

Municipal elections have become increasingly complex due to evolving election laws, voting system requirements, accessibility standards, election security measures, and other statutory obligations. While the Denton County Elections Administrator currently contracts with municipalities to conduct May elections, existing Texas law does not require counties to offer these services. Municipal Clerks across the state are advocating for legislation that would make this option available to municipalities each year.

Although Town Secretaries often serve as the chief election official for their municipality, County Election Administrators are specifically staffed, trained, and equipped to administer elections and maintain the specialized resources necessary to conduct elections efficiently and in compliance with state law.

Contracting with the County also provides municipalities with the opportunity to share election-related costs, including polling locations, election workers, voting equipment, and other administrative expenses, helping to reduce the overall cost of conducting elections.

The proposed Resolution supports legislation that would require County Election Administrators to offer election services to municipalities for annual May elections. The proposed legislation would not require municipalities to contract with the County or diminish local authority over municipal elections. Rather, it would ensure that municipalities have the option to utilize county election services each year if they choose.

Providing municipalities with this option would promote consistency and professionalism in election administration, improve access to trained election personnel and specialized equipment, reduce the risk of inadvertent noncompliance with increasingly complex election laws, and enhance public confidence in the election process.

Approval of the Resolution would formally express the Town of Bartonville's support for this legislative initiative and authorize the Resolution to be forwarded to the appropriate state officials, legislators, and organizations involved in election administration and municipal advocacy.

FISCAL INFORMATION: N/A

RECOMMENDED MOTION OR ACTION:

Motion to APPROVE a Resolution supporting Legislation requiring County Election Administrators to offer annual election services contracts to municipalities for May elections; supporting the integrity, consistency, and professional administration of municipal elections.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution