



## CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE ORDINANCE

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**MEETING DATE:** 02/04/2025

**PRESENTER:** Bill Hills, City Manager and Maleshia McGinnis, City Attorney

**TITLE:** Ordinance Calling a Special Election on May 3, 2025, for the Purpose of Submitting Proposed Amendments to the Grand Prairie City Charter to the Qualified Voters of the City of Grand Prairie

**REVIEWING COMMITTEE:**

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### SUMMARY:

A Special Election will be held to submit proposed amendments to the City Charter to the qualified voters of the City of Grand Prairie to modify the compensation for City Councilmembers and to authorize the general correction of errors, and removal of language that is inconsistent, conflicts with or is preempted by state or federal law. The election shall be conducted by the Dallas, Tarrant and Ellis County Elections Departments in precincts of the respective agreements. Those agreements will be brought forth to Council for consideration once the counties confirm all contracting entities.

### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

<b>Budgeted?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Fund Name:</b>	<b>General Fund</b>
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Currently, the City Council is reimbursed for ordinary business expenses monthly, including cell phone service, internet service and other administrative expenses.

If the proposed Charter amendment is approved, the probable economic impact to the City will be an increase in the budgeted amount for City Council pay and business expenses from \$111,708 to \$175,680 for an increase of \$63,972 annually, beginning Fiscal Year 2025-2026.

	Current Annual Meeting Pay *	Current Annual Business Stipend	Current Annual Total	Proposed Annual Pay (Charter Amendment)	
				Monthly	Annual
Mayor	\$1,200 (\$100 per month)	\$15,540 (\$1,295 per month)	\$16,740	\$1,860	\$22,320

Mayor Pro Tem	\$120 (\$10 per month)	\$13,932 (\$1,161 per month)	\$14,052		\$1,760	\$21,120
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem	\$120 (\$10 per month)	\$12,324 (\$1,027 per month)	\$12,444		\$1,660	\$19,920
Councilmember (x) 6	\$720 (\$10 per month per member)	\$10,692 (\$891 per month per member)	\$68,472		\$1,560	\$112,320
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,160</b>	<b>\$52,488</b>	<b>\$111,708</b>		<b>\$6,840</b>	<b>\$175,680</b>

*\* Mayor currently receives \$100 per month; Councilmembers receive \$5 per meeting - estimated amount of \$10 per month*

Approval of Proposition C will not have any fiscal impact to the City.

## **BODY**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, CALLING A SPECIAL ELECTION ON MAY 3, 2025, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE GRAND PRAIRIE CITY CHARTER TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, is a home-rule city having its own Charter under the laws and Constitution of the State of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Uniform Election Date for the City's General Election has been set as May 3, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Grand Prairie proposes amendments to the Grand Prairie City Charter be submitted to the qualified voters of the City of Grand Prairie in a special charter amendment election to be held on the next uniform election date of May 3, 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of the City of Grand Prairie hereby finds it is in the best interests of the City to order such election for May 3, 2025, and to contract with the counties of Dallas, Tarrant and Ellis in Texas for conducting such elections.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, THAT:**

**SECTION 1.** A Special Election shall be held in the City of Grand Prairie on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, 2025 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of submitting proposed amendments to the Grand Prairie City Charter, as stated below, to the qualified voters of the City of Grand Prairie for consideration on the next uniform election date as prescribed by Section 41.001, Texas Election Code.

**SECTION 2.** The election shall be conducted by Dallas County Elections Department, Tarrant County Elections Department and Ellis County Elections Department, in precincts of the respective counties pursuant to contracts between each election department and the City of Grand Prairie.

**SECTION 3.** Early voting by personal appearance shall be conducted by the Dallas County Elections Department, the Tarrant County Elections Department and the Ellis County Elections Department in accordance with provisions of the respective agreements.

Main Early Voting Locations

Dallas County Elections (Dallas County voters only)  
Elections Training/Warehouse  
1460 Round Table Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75247

Tarrant County Election Center (Tarrant County voters only)  
2700 Premier Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76111

Ellis County Woman's Building (Ellis County voters only)  
407 W. Jefferson Street (Davis Hall)  
Waxahachie, Texas, 75165

In Grand Prairie early voting by personal appearance for Dallas County and Tarrant County voters will be conducted at the following locations:

Dallas County Voters

Betty Warmack Library	760 Bardin Road (Empower Room)	Grand Prairie, TX 75052
The Summit	2975 Esplanade Drive (Aerobic Room)	Grand Prairie, TX 75052
Crosswinds High School	1100 N. Carrier Parkway (Room 104)	Grand Prairie, TX 75050

Tarrant County Voters

Asia Times Square	2625 W. Pioneer Pkwy (Main Front Entrance)	Grand Prairie, TX 75051
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**DALLAS COUNTY EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES**

April 22 – April 25, 2025	Tuesday - Friday	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
April 26, 2025	Saturday	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
April 27, 2025	Sunday	12:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
April 28 – 29, 2025	Monday - Tuesday	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**TARRANT COUNTY EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES**

April 22 – April 25, 2025	Tuesday - Friday	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
April 26, 2025	Saturday	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
April 27, 2025	Sunday	10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
April 28 – 29, 2025	Monday - Tuesday	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

## ELLIS COUNTY EARLY VOTING DATES AND TIMES

April 22 – April 25, 2025	Tuesday - Friday	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
April 26, 2025	Saturday	8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
April 28 – April 29, 2025	Monday - Tuesday	7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Branch Early Voting Polling places, dates and times will be determined and provided by Dallas County Elections, Tarrant County Elections and Ellis County Elections and published in the forthcoming election notice.

**SECTION 4.** Application for early voting mail ballots by voters qualified to vote by mail shall be made to the Early Voting Clerk as follows:

- Dallas County voters may make application for mail ballots directly to Dallas County Elections, 1520 Round Table Drive, Dallas, Texas, 75247; PH: 469-627-8683; FAX: 214-819-6303; [evapplications@dallascounty.org](mailto:evapplications@dallascounty.org); <https://www.dallascountyvotes.org/>
- Tarrant County voters may make application for mail ballots directly to Tarrant County Elections, 2700 Premier Street, Fort Worth, Texas, 76111; PH: 817-831-8683; FAX: 817-850-2344; [votebymail@tarrantcountytx.gov](mailto:votebymail@tarrantcountytx.gov); <https://www.tarrantcountytx.gov/en/elections.html>
- Ellis County voters may make application for mail ballots directly to the Ellis County Elections, 204 E. Jefferson Street, Waxahachie, Texas, 75165; PH: 972-825-5195; FAX: 972-923-5194; [elections@co.ellis.tx.us](mailto:elections@co.ellis.tx.us); <https://www.co.ellis.tx.us/312/Elections>

Applications for ballots by mail (ABBM) and federal post card applications (FPCA) must be received no later than the close of business on April 22, 2025.

**SECTION 5.** A voting system or systems meeting the standards and requirements of the Texas Election Code, as amended, is hereby adopted and approved for early voting by personal appearance and by mail and for election day voting.

**SECTION 6.** Ballots shall be prepared in accordance with the Texas Election Code and permit electors to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the aforesaid measures which shall appear on the ballot substantially as follows:

### **PROPOSITION B**

Shall the City of Grand Prairie City Charter provision Article IV, Sections 12(a) and (b), be amended to modify the compensation of the mayor and councilmembers to increase the maximum compensation for the mayor from one hundred dollars (\$100) per month to one thousand eight hundred sixty dollars (\$1,860) per month; set the maximum compensation for the mayor pro tem at one thousand seven hundred sixty dollars (\$1,760) per month; set the maximum compensation for the deputy mayor pro tem, should one be selected, at one thousand six hundred sixty dollars (\$1,660) per month; and increase the maximum compensation for each councilmember from five dollars (\$5.00) per meeting with a maximum compensation of twenty-five dollars (\$25) per month, to one thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$1,560) per month, inclusive of ordinary business expenses?

FOR  
AGAINST

If approved by a majority of the qualified voters, Article IV Section 12 would read as follows:

- (a) The mayor may receive a salary in an amount to be fixed by the city council, but which amount shall in no event be more than one ~~hundred thousand eight hundred sixty~~ thousand eight hundred sixty dollars ~~(\$100)~~ (\$1,860) per month, and such amount shall include ordinary business expenses.
- (b) The mayor pro tem may receive a salary in an amount to be fixed by the city council, but which amount shall in no event be more than one thousand seven hundred sixty dollars (\$1,760) per month, and such amount shall include ordinary business expenses.
- (c) The deputy mayor pro tem, should one be selected, may receive a salary in an amount to be fixed by the city council, but which amount shall in no event be more than one thousand six hundred sixty dollars (\$1,660) per month, and such amount shall include ordinary business expenses.
- (d) Each councilmember may receive ~~the sum of five dollars (\$5.00) for each meeting of the council attended;~~ a salary in an amount to be fixed by the city council, but which amount shall in no event be more than ~~provided that no councilmember shall receive a greater compensation than twenty-five dollars (\$25.00)~~ one thousand five hundred sixty dollars (\$1,560) per month, and such amount shall include ordinary business expenses.

### **PROPOSITION C**

Shall the Grand Prairie City Charter be amended to remove any redundancies or inconsistencies, correct any typographical errors, and remove or modify any language that conflicts with or is preempted by other state or federal law?

FOR  
AGAINST

**SECTION 7.** Section 9.004(c)(2) of the Texas Local Government Code requires a statement of the anticipated fiscal impact to the City if the proposed amendments are approved. The City has determined that if Proposition B is approved, the probable economic impact to the City will be an increase in the budgeted amount for City Council pay and business expenses of \$63,972 annually, beginning Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Approval of Proposition C will not have any fiscal impact to the City.

**SECTION 8.** The deadline for candidates to file applications for a place on the ballot in the General Election shall be February 14, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.

**SECTION 9.** The manner of holding said election shall be governed by state statutes of the State of Texas and the Charter and ordinances of the City of Grand Prairie.

**SECTION 10.** The notice of the election shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code, as amended.

**SECTION 11.** It is hereby found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance was passed

and said elections were called was open to the public and notice of time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by Chapter 551, Texas Government Code.

**SECTION 12.** Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any purpose by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are declared to be severable.

**SECTION 13.** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**SECTION 14.** This ordinance shall be in force and in effect from and after its final passage.

**PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 4<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY 2025.**