

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-08**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF HEWITT, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING A SCHOOL ZONE AND REGULATING THE RATE AND SPEED OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON A CERTAIN SECTION OF RITCHIE ROAD; ESTABLISHING PRIMA FACIE MAXIMUM SPEED LIMITS DURING SCHOOL HOURS IN SUCH A SCHOOL ZONE; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FINDING AND DETERMINING THAT THE MEETING AT WHICH THIS ORDINANCE IS PASSED IS OPENED TO THE PUBLIC AS REQUIRED BY LAW.**

**Whereas**, Section 545.356 of the Texas Transportation Code states that the governing body of a municipality has the authority to alter speed limits upon the basis of an engineering and traffic investigation that any prima facie speed therein set forth is greater or less than reasonable or prudent under the conditions found to exist at any intersection or other place upon any part of a street or highway within the City of Hewitt, Texas; and

**Whereas**, it has been determined by investigation that there is a need to establish a school zone for the protection and safety of pedestrians crossing streets in school areas, during periods of time when the schools are in session; and

**Whereas**, the City Council of the City of Hewitt, Texas, finds it necessary for a school zone on a section of Ritchie Road and the reasonable and safe prima facie maximum speed of motor vehicles in said school zone, should be set forth below; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF HEWITT, TEXAS, ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS CITY COUNCIL:**

**Section 1:** The City Council of the City of Hewitt hereby establishes a **20 MPH** school zone on a section starting at approximately 55 L.F. southeast of Warren Road to approximately 270 L.F. southeast of Park Place Drive, along Ritchie Road, the speed limit shall be **20 MPH** when flashing in the school zone shown on the map attached as **Exhibit "A"**.

That the above section of roadway is hereby regulated as to the speed of motor vehicles traveling within said section in any direction as evidenced by the attached plan which is hereby approved and made a part of this ordinance, and it shall be unlawful for any person to drive a vehicle at a speed in excess of any speed so declared in this ordinance when signs are in place giving notice thereof.

**Section 2:** Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction be fined in any sum not exceeding Five Hundred and no/100 Dollars.

**Section 3:** All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are to the extent of such conflict hereby repealed.

**Section 4:** That it is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this ordinance is passed is open to the public as required and that public notice of said meeting was given as required by law.

**Section 5:** The fact that the City of Hewitt at the present time has no adequate ordinance governing the speed of motor vehicles on the section of Ritchie Road, herein above described, creates an urgency and an imperative public necessity which, for the immediate preservation of public peace, health, safety, and welfare necessitates that the rule requiring the reading of ordinances on three separate days be suspended, and such rule is suspended and this ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage, and it is so enacted.

**PASSED AND APPROVED on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of August, 2022.**

**CITY OF HEWITT, TEXAS**

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Steve Fortenberry, Mayor

Attest:

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Lydia Lopez, City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

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Michael W. Dixon, City Attorney