



City Council Agenda August 20, 2026

Resolution

Action Item

Agenda Description:

Discuss, consider, and possible action on a Resolution supporting legislation requiring county election administrators to offer annual election services.

Background Information:

The City of Joshua is responsible for conducting its May municipal elections in accordance with the Texas Election Code. Currently, Johnson County Election Administration does not provide contracted election services to the City for these elections, and existing state law does not require a county election administrator to offer election services to municipalities on an annual basis.

Municipal elections have become increasingly complex, requiring compliance with continually changing election laws and procedures, voting system requirements, accessibility standards, election security measures, and other statutory responsibilities. While City Secretaries frequently serve as the municipality's chief election official, county election administrators are specifically staffed, trained, and equipped to administer elections and maintain specialized election resources.

The proposed Resolution supports a change in state law that would require County Election Administrators to **offer annual election services contracts to municipalities for May elections**. The legislation would not remove the City's authority over its elections or require the City to contract with the County; rather, it would ensure that municipalities have the opportunity to utilize county election services each year.

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

State Representative Helen Kerwin and State Representative David Cook have expressed support for the filing of legislation addressing this issue. Adoption of the Resolution would demonstrate the City of Joshua's formal support for this legislative effort and provide additional support as the proposed legislation moves forward for consideration by the Texas Legislature.

Approval of the Resolution would formally express the City of Joshua's support for this legislative change and direct that the Resolution be provided to state officials, legislators, and organizations involved in election administration and municipal advocacy.

Financial Information:

No cost for approving resolution

City Contact and Recommendations:

Alice Holloway, City Secretary

Staff recommends approval

Attachments:

- 1. Resolution**