



## **ORDINANCE 03232020A**

**AN ORDINANCE PER THE PROCLAMATION OF GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE TEXAS ELECTION CODE AND TEXAS WATER CODE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 418.016 ORDERING THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE GENERAL ELECTION FOR THE CITY OF BELLS, GRAYSON COUNTY, TEXAS TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2020, JOINTLY WITH BELLS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, GRAYSON COUNTY, TEXAS, BY THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF BELLS, GRAYSON COUNTY, FOR SAID PURPOSES OF ELECTING THREE CITY COUNCILMEMBERS BEING OF SAID CITY TO SERVE ON THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE ENSUING TWO (2) YEAR TERM, EXPIRING MAY 2022.**

**WHEREAS**, President Donald Trump has proclaimed the COVID-19 outbreak a national emergency in the United States; and Governor Greg Abbott has declared a state of disaster for all counties in Texas; and Grayson County Commissioners Court has declared a state of disaster for Grayson County; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 418.016 of the Texas Government Code allows a proclamation by the Governor to suspend certain provisions of the Texas Election Code and Texas Water Code; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 23, 2020, the City Council approved the extending of declaration of disaster for Public Health Emergency; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Bells has already taken significant measures to prepare for and prevent the spread of COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, the Grayson County Election Administration has recommended to City of Bells suspend the May 2, 2020 General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to take additional steps to prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the spread of COVID-19 to protect the health and welfare of the citizens of the City of Bells.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** by the City Council of Bells:

The postponement of the General Election of May 2, 2020 until November 3, 2020.

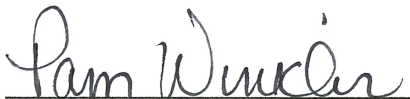
The City Council affirms that the candidate filings for the election will remain valid for the election held on the November date and that the filing period will not be re-opened for the November election date.

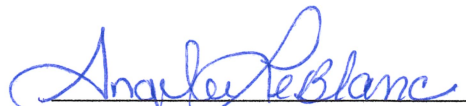
The City Council affirms that all ABBMs for voters that are voting by mail due to being over the age of 65 or due to disability will still be valid for the postponed election, and that ABBMs for voters who submitted ABBMs based on expected absence from the county would not be valid for the postponed election.

The City Council affirms that major relevant dates for the November election, including the voter registration deadline (October 5, 2020), the deadline to submit an ABBM (October 23, 2020), and dates for early voting (October 19, 2020 – October 30, 2020).

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Bells in special meeting, on the 23rd, day of March 2020.

ATTEST:

  
Pam Winkler, City Secretary

  
Angela LeBlanc, Mayor