

City of Bellaire

ORDINANCE NO. 25-069

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS, CALLING A GENERAL ELECTION WITHIN THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A MAYOR AND THREE COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR POSITION NOS. 1, 3, AND 5; PROVIDING FOR A RUNOFF ELECTION, IF NECESSARY; ESTABLISHING THE DATE OF THE GENERAL ELECTION AS THE UNIFORM ELECTION DATE DESIGNATED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS AS THE FIRST TUESDAY AFTER THE FIRST MONDAY IN NOVEMBER OR NOVEMBER 4, 2025; ESTABLISHING ELECTION PRECINCTS, POLLING PLACES, AND APPOINTING ELECTION OFFICIALS; AND SETTING FORTH CERTAIN GUIDELINES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to *Chapter 3, Ordering Election, Section 3.004(a)(3), Election of Political Subdivision*, of the *Texas Election Code*, the governing body of a political subdivision (i.e., the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas) is authorized to order an election for the general election of City officers; and

WHEREAS, the current term of office for the Mayor of the City of Bellaire, Texas, shall expire on January 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the current terms of office for the Council Members in Position Nos. 1, 3, and 5 of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, shall each expire on January 5, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bellaire, Texas, is authorized under *Article II, The Council, Section 1, Elections, Subsection (e), Election Dates*, of the *Charter of the City of Bellaire, Texas*, as amended November 3, 2020, to conduct its general election on the uniform election date designated by the State of Texas as the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November; and

WHEREAS, should the need arise for a runoff election, the City of Bellaire, Texas, desires to designate Harris County, Texas, to administer the runoff election, if necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLAIRE, TEXAS:

Section 1. **THAT** the recitals contained herein are true and correct.

Section 2. **THAT** a general election to elect a Mayor and three Council Members for Position Nos. 1, 3, and 5, will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, and administered by Harris County, Texas ("County"), in conjunction with elections to be administered by the County, for the City of Bellaire, Texas, and other local entities.

Section 3. **THAT** a runoff election, should one be necessary, will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025, or such other date as established by the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, and administered by the County, in conjunction with runoff elections to be administered by the County, for the City of Bellaire, Texas, and other local entities.

Section 4. **THAT** the qualified voters of the City of Bellaire, Texas, shall elect a Mayor to a two-year term commencing on January 5, 2026, and expiring on the date of the first regular City Council meeting in 2028 or on January 3, 2028.

Section 5. **THAT** the qualified voters of the City of Bellaire, Texas, shall elect three Council Members for the following Council positions: 1, 3, and 5, to a four-year term commencing on January 5, 2026, and expiring on the date of the first regular City Council meeting in 2030 or on January 3, 2030.

Section 6. **THAT** the City of Bellaire Texas consists of five voting precincts and polling places (i.e., 128, 214, 215, 268, and 919), the polling places of which are those designated by the County.

Section 7. **THAT** each of the referenced five (5) voting precincts is a regular County election precinct and, therefore, the City of Bellaire, Texas, hereby appoints the County election officials as its special officials for the purpose of this general election and any runoff election.

Section 8. **THAT** the Election Day Presiding and Alternate Election Judges, Early Voting Judges and Clerks, Early Voting Ballot Board, Central Count Presiding and Alternate Judges, Central Count Manager, and Tabulation Supervisor shall be those special officials appointed by the County for the purposes of the general election and runoff election, if necessary.

Section 9. **THAT** Early Voting by Mail for the general election may be conducted by making application for an early voting ballot with the Harris County Clerk's Office Elections Department, P.O. Box 1148, Houston, Texas 77251-1148, if using regular mail. If using a common or contract carrier, the application should be delivered to the Harris County Clerk's Office Elections Department, 15600 Morales Road, Houston, Texas 77032. Voters qualified to vote early by mail may begin applying for a ballot by mail on January 1, 2025.

Section 10. **THAT** Early Voting by Personal Appearance may be conducted by the Harris County Clerk's Office Elections Department at the main early voting location designated by the County or any of the other early voting polling locations designated by the County. Early Voting by Personal Appearance for the general election will begin on Monday, October 20, 2025, and conclude on Friday, October 31, 2025.

Section 11. **THAT** Early Voting by Personal Appearance and by mail for the runoff election will be administered by the County in accordance with state law.

Section 12. **THAT** the Harris County Clerk's Office Elections Department may implement a Countywide Polling Place Program whereby all early voting polling places will be

open on Election Day in addition to the precinct polling places allowing any voter to vote at any Harris County polling location on Election Day.

Section 13. **THAT** ballots shall be cast utilizing an electronic voting system, Hart Verity 2.5 or other system approved by the County and the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, during Early Voting and on Election Day.

Section 14. **THAT** the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, will canvass the returns of the general election on or before Monday, November 17, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chamber, First Floor of City Hall, 7008 South Rice Avenue, Bellaire, Texas 77401-4411, unless a different date, time, or location is set by the presiding officer of the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, and properly noticed.

Section 15. **THAT** the form of notice prescribed by the Secretary of State of the State of Texas shall serve as proper notice of the general election, and, if necessary, runoff election. Said notice, including a Spanish, Vietnamese, and Traditional Chinese translation thereof, shall be given by publishing and posting it in accordance with the *Texas Election Code*.

Section 16. **THAT** if any word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, shall ever be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, neither the remainder of this Ordinance, nor the application of such word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, section, or other part of this Ordinance to any other persons or circumstances, shall be affected thereby.

Section 17. **THAT** all ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of conflict only.

Section 18. **THAT** the City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, officially finds, determines, and declares that a sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place, and subject of the meeting at which this Ordinance was discussed, considered, or acted upon was given in the manner required by the *Texas Open Meetings Act*, as amended, and has been open to the public as required by law at all times during such discussion, consideration, and action. The City Council of the City of Bellaire, Texas, ratifies, approves, and confirms such notice and the contents and posting thereof.

Section 19. **THAT** this Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon passage and be in force immediately from and after its passage and signature. This Ordinance shall be preserved in the permanent records of the City of Bellaire, Texas.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 4th day of August, 2025.

SIGNED:

Gus E. Pappas
Mayor



APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Alan P. Petrov
City Attorney