

ORDINANCE NUMBER 812

AUG 13 2026

4:01 PM

HUTCHINSON COUNTY TEXAS
BY Debra Payne DEPUTY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SANFORD, TEXAS ORDERING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026, ON A PROPOSITION TO CHANGE THE TYPE OF CITY GOVERNMENT FROM A TYPE-B GENERAL LAW MUNICIPALITY TO A TYPE-C GENERAL LAW MUNICIPALITY; PROVIDING WORDING FOR THE BALLOT (PROPOSITION LANGUAGE); PROVIDING FOR ELECTION PROCEDURES; PROVIDING THE MAIN EARLY VOTING PLACE; APPOINTING AN EARLY VOTING CLERK; PROVIDING APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO AN INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT TO CONDUCT A JOINT ELECTION; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE; PROVIDING SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, a Petition for Reclassification of the City of Sanford has been submitted to the Mayor requesting that an election to determine whether the municipality will change from a Type-B general law municipality to a Type-C general law municipality; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sanford has 132 residents; and

WHEREAS, the Petition for Reclassification is signed by 17 residents of the City of Sanford, which is more than 10 percent of the qualified voters of the City of Sanford; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 8 states that if the Mayor receives a petition to change the type of city that has been signed by more than 10 percent of the qualified voters, then an election shall be ordered; and

WHEREAS, November 3, 2026, is a uniform election day in the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the Texas Election Code requires that any election to be called by the City Council shall be called on a uniform election day; and

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the City Council that other political subdivisions in Hutchinson County, and/or Hutchinson County, will be conducting an election on November 3, 2026, and it would be advantageous to the City of Sanford to enter into an interlocal agreement to conduct its special election at the same location(s) as other political subdivisions, including Hutchinson County; and

WHEREAS, the City of Sanford, and other political subdivisions in Hutchinson County, including Hutchinson County, are authorized to enter into an interlocal agreement to jointly conduct their respective elections; and

WHEREAS, Section 83.005 and §83.032 of the Election Code specify that the City Secretary is designated as the early voting clerk and may appoint temporary deputies to assist in the conduct of early voting; and

WHEREAS, Section 85.004 of the Election Code specifies that the Election Order must designate and state the location of the main early voting polling place; and

WHEREAS, Section 85.005(b) of the Election Code specifies that if a territory in which the election applies has less than 1,000 registered voters, then early voting shall be conducted at least four hours each day.

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

Section 1. Special Election Ordered. The City Council of the City of Sanford hereby orders a special election to be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. to submit to the qualified voters of the City of Sanford the proposition allowing such voters to vote for or against changing the type of city government from a Type-B General Law municipality to a Type-C General Law municipality.

Section 2. Ballot and Proposition Language. The official ballots for said special election shall be prepared in accordance with the Texas Election Code so as to permit the electors to vote "YES" or "NO" as to the proposition, with the ballots to contain such provisions, markings, and language as required by law, and with such proposition to be expressed in a form substantially as follows:

**City of Sanford Proposition to Change from a
Type-B General Law Municipality to a Type-C General Law Municipality**

Should the City of Sanford change from a Type-B General Law Municipality
to a Type-C General Law Municipality

_____ YES _____ NO

Section 3. Printed Materials. The official ballots, together with such other election materials as are required by the Texas Election Code shall be printed in both the English and Spanish languages and shall contain such provisions, markings and language as required by law.

Section 4. Notice of Election. Notice of the election shall be given and the election shall be held in compliance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code in all respects. The ballots for the election shall comply with the Texas Election Code and be in the form provided by the City to the Election Officer (whomever is designated with that title by interlocal agreement) for use on the voting devices and ballots to be used.

Section 5. Conduct of Election. The Election Officer and his/her employees and appointees, and the election judges, alternate judges and clerks properly appointed for the election, shall hold and conduct the election in the manner provided by the law governing the holding of special elections; and the official ballots, together with such other election materials as are required by the Texas Election Code, shall be prepared in both the English and Spanish languages and shall contain such provisions, markings and language as is required by law.

Section 6. Joint Election. The City agrees to conduct a joint election with any other political subdivision(s) within Hutchinson County, including Hutchinson County, provided that such political subdivision(s) hold an election on November 3, 2026, in all or part of the same territory as the City (the "Political Subdivisions"). The joint election for Political Subdivisions will be conducted in accordance with state law, this ordinance, and the respective Election Services Contracts/Interlocal Agreement(s). Approval to enter into such Election Services Contracts/Interlocal Agreement(s) with other Political Subdivisions is hereby given.

Section 7. Election Precincts and Day Polling Places. The election precincts for the election shall be the election precincts established by the Election Officer, in accordance with applicable law. The polling places for Election Day shall be at such locations designated by the Election Officer and authorized by state law. The polls shall remain open on the day of the election from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The returns will be provided by precinct and the Election Officer shall tabulate and provide the election returns for the election.

Section 8. Early Voting.

- (a) Early voting shall commence on Monday, October 19, 2026, and continue through Friday, October 30, 2026, and early voting polls shall remain open for the time specified by the Texas Election Code, which shall be for the minimum length of time stated below:

Monday- Saturday, 7:00 am – 1:00 pm

Sunday, Noon – 4:00 pm

- (b) Early Voting Conducted by the Election Officer:

- 1) Early voting, both by personal appearance and by mail will be conducted by the Election Officer in accordance with the Texas Election Code.
- 2) Shelley Garipey, City Secretary of the City of Sanford, is hereby designated and appointed as an Early Voting Clerk for the City of Sanford for the special election. The appointment by the City Secretary of a deputy clerk or clerks for early voting shall be done in accordance with §83.032 of the Texas Election Code. The Early Voting Clerk's official mailing address and contact information is:

City of Sanford
ATTN: City Secretary
PO Box 220
Sanford, Texas 79078
806-865-3612
Sanfordcityhall208@gmail.com

- 3) Applications for ballot by mail for qualified voters of the City shall be mailed to:
The City of Sanford
ATTN: City Secretary, Early Voting Clerk
PO BOX 220
Sanford, TX 79078

(c) The main early voting location for the special election is:
Hutchinson County Courthouse
500 N. Main Street
Stinnett, Texas 79083

(d) Early voting shall be held at the dates, times, and location authorized by the Election Officer. Any early voting polling place may be added or changed by the Officer upon compliance with applicable law.

Section 9. Election Judges and Clerks. The presiding judges, alternate presiding judges and clerks for the election shall be selected and appointed by the Election Officer and its appointees in compliance with the requirements of state law, and such judges and clerks so selected, and such appointees are hereby designated and appointed by the City Council as the election officers, judges and clerks, respectively, for the holding of said election. The presiding judges, alternate presiding judges and clerks shall perform the functions and duties of their respective positions that are provided by state law. The City Council confirms and appoints the election judges and alternate election judges that are appointed by the Election Officer for the election.

Section 10. Necessary Actions. The Mayor and the City Secretary of the City, in consultation with the City's Attorney, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of the Code and the Federal Voting Rights Act in carrying out and conducting the Election, whether or not expressly authorized herein, including, but not limited to, entering into an interlocal agreement for conducting a joint election, making changes or additions to polling places, ballot language, or procedures to the extent required or desirable or as may become necessary due to circumstances arising after the date of this Ordinance.

Section 11. General. The election shall be held and conducted in compliance with the Texas Election Code and only resident qualified voters of the City shall be eligible to vote at the election. The Election Officers are hereby authorized and instructed to provide and furnish all necessary election supplies to conduct said election. Returns of the election shall be made known as soon as possible after the closing of the polls; and the election returns shall be canvassed by the City Council not earlier than November 6, 2026, nor later than November 16, 2026.

Section 12. Authorization to Execute. The Mayor is authorized to execute and the City Secretary is authorized to attest this Ordinance on behalf of the City Council; and the Mayor is authorized to do all other things necessary in connection with the holding and consummation of the election.

Section 13. Effective Date; Election Code. This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage on the date shown below; provided that if any term or provision of this Ordinance conflicts with, or is inconsistent with, the Texas Elections Code or Texas Local Government Code, then those statutes shall govern and control and the Election Officer shall comply with the statutes.

Section 14. Severability. If any provision, section or subsection of this ordinance or the application of any provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the ordinance which can be given effect without the

invalid provision or application, and the City Council declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part thereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more parts may be declared invalid, and that each part is hereby declared to be severable.

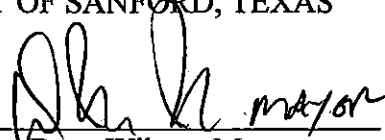
Section 15. Publication. The City Secretary is directed to publish this ordinance in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code requirements for ordering an election.

Section 16. Open Meetings. It is officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance is passed was open to the public as required and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given, in accordance with Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS 12th DAY OF AUGUST 2026.

CITY OF SANFORD, TEXAS

By:


Dave Wilson, Mayor

ATTEST:


City Secretary

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