

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORCHESTER, TEXAS, ORDERING A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF DORCHESTER A BALLOT PROPOSITION FOR THE ADOPTION OF A SALES AND USE TAX OF ONE PERCENT FOR THE BENEFIT OF A “TYPE B” CORPORATION TO BE CREATED BY DORCHESTER IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 505 OF THE TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE, CHAPTER 321 OF THE TEXAS TAX CODE AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAW, TO BE ADMINISTERED BY THE GRAYSON COUNTY ELECTIONS ADMINISTRATOR; DESIGNATING EARLY VOTING POLLING PLACES AND HOURS; DESIGNATING ELECTION DAY POLLING PLACES AND HOURS; ORDERING NOTICES OF ELECTION TO BE GIVEN AS PRESCRIBED BY LAW IN CONNECTION WITH SUCH ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF ELECTION JUDGES AND CLERKS; AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND CITY SECRETARY TO TAKE ALL ACTIONS NECESSARY TO COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE ELECTION LAWS; AND PROVIDING A SAVINGS/REPEALING CLAUSE, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Development Corporation Act of 1979, codified at Title 12, Subtitle C1 of the Texas Local Government Code, provides authority for the creation of economic development corporations by municipalities for the purposes specified therein; and

WHEREAS, Section 505.251 of the Texas Local Government Code authorizes municipalities to order an election to adopt a “Type B” sales and use tax in accordance with Chapter 321 of the Texas Tax Code, for the purpose of funding authorized projects of economic development corporations created by such municipalities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Dorchester, Texas (“City Council”), on its own motion, desires to submit to the qualified voters of the City of Dorchester, Texas (“Dorchester”) a ballot proposition for the adoption of a sales and use tax of one percent for the benefit of a “Type B” corporation to be created by Dorchester in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, Dorchester previously adopted a “general revenue” sales tax of one percent in an election held on [REDACTED] in accordance with applicable law; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a “Type B” sales and use tax of one percent, combined with the existing one percent “general revenue” sales tax applicable in Dorchester, would not exceed the maximum amount of two percent authorized under applicable law for assessment and collection by Dorchester; and

WHEREAS, the City Council duly authorizes and hereby orders a special election to be held within Dorchester on November 4, 2025, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of Dorchester a ballot proposition for the adoption of a sales and use tax of one percent for the benefit of a “Type B” corporation to be created by Dorchester in accordance with applicable law; and

Commented [RP1]: Need additional information to complete all blanks throughout.

WHEREAS, the City Council finds that Dorchester has complied with all legal requirements for ordering the special election.

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

SECTION 1: Findings Incorporated. The findings set forth above are incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if fully set forth herein.

SECTION 2: Special Election Ordered. A special election (“Election”) is hereby ordered to be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2025 (“Election Day”), for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of Dorchester a ballot proposition for the adoption of a sales and use tax of one percent for the benefit of a “Type B” corporation to be created by Dorchester in accordance with applicable law. The Election shall be held in conjunction with the Dorchester General Election on Election Day. The Election shall be administered by the Grayson County Elections Administrator.

Commented [RP2]: Please confirm this is accurate.

SECTION 3: Ballot Proposition. In the Election, the ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the following proposition: “The adoption of a sales and use tax at the rate of one percent for the purposes authorized by and described in Chapters 501 and 505 of the Texas Local Government Code, including but not limited to the promotion and development of new and expanded business development, projects related to recreational or community facilities, projects related to affordable housing, projects related to water supply facilities and water conservation programs, projects related to business enterprises that create or retain primary jobs, promotional purposes and other authorized projects and uses, including maintenance and operating costs of authorized projects.”

Commented [RP3]: There is flexibility on the wording of the ballot proposition. Please review and let’s discuss.

Also, I strongly recommend confirming this ballot language is appropriate with the Texas Secretary of State’s Office.

SECTION 4: Early Voting. Early voting by personal appearance shall be available at: _____; or the Grayson County Elections Office, _____, which is designated as the main early voting polling place. Early voting will begin on Monday, October 20, 2025, and continue through Friday, October 31, 2025, during the normal working hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with extended voting hours on _____. Applications for ballots by mail shall be requested from and mailed to _____, or faxed to _____, or emailed to _____. (If faxed or emailed, the original application must be mailed and received within 4 days.) Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than the close of business on October 24, 2025.

Commented [RP4]: Included in accordance with Section 505.303 of the Local Government Code.

Grayson County voters may vote at any of the additional Early Voting locations open under full contract services with the Grayson County Elections Administrator, which may be designated after August 18, 2025. This previous sentence shall also be posted in the Notice of Election. Early voting times and locations are subject to change.

SECTION 5: Election Day Voting. Election Day voting by personal appearance shall be at the following locations, and any of the additional Election Day Vote Centers open under full contract services with the Grayson County Elections Administrator, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.:

SECTION 6: Voting Equipment and Materials. For early voting in person, early voting by mail, election day voting and provisional voting, the following voting equipment will be used, according to the Grayson County Elections Administrator: _____.

Commented [RP5]: Information to be supplied by the Grayson County Election Administrator.

SECTION 7: Election to Comply with Applicable Laws. The City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to publish and/or post, in the time and manner prescribed by law, all notices required to be so published and/or posted in connection with the conduct of this Election. The Election and notice of the Election shall be conducted in accordance with the Texas Election Code and other applicable law, and all qualified and registered voters of Dorchester shall be eligible to vote at the Election.

SECTION 8: Appointment of Election Judges and Clerks. The appointment of the Presiding Election Judges, Alternate Judges, Early Voting Clerks, the Presiding Judge of the early ballot board and other election officials for the Election shall be made by the Grayson County Elections Administrator in accordance with the contracts for election administration services and the Texas Election Code. The Elections Administrator may employ other personnel necessary for the proper administration of the Election, including such part-time help as is necessary to prepare for the Election, to ensure the timely delivery of supplies during early voting and on Election Day, and for the efficient tabulation of ballots at the central counting station.

SECTION 9: Authority of Mayor and City Secretary. The Mayor and the City Secretary, in consultation with the City Attorney, are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all actions necessary to comply with the provisions of the Texas Election Code and any other state or federal law in carrying out and conducting the Election, whether or not expressly authorized herein.

SECTION 10: Severability. Should any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance be declared unconstitutional and/or invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, it is expressly provided that any and all remaining portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this Ordinance, and each section, subsection, clause and phrase thereof regardless of whether any one or more sections, subsections, sentences, clauses or phrases may be declared unconstitutional and/or invalid.

SECTION 11: Savings/Repealing. All provisions of any ordinance in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent they are in conflict. Any remaining portion of conflicting ordinances shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 12: Open Meeting. The City Council finds that the meeting at which this Ordinance is passed is open to the public and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of the meeting was given as required by law.

SECTION 13: Effective Date. This order for an election becomes effective immediately upon its passage.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORCHESTER, TEXAS ON THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2025.

David Smith, Mayor

**ATTESTED AND
CORRECTLY RECORDED:**

Becky Vincent, City Secretary