

**CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2026-1**  
**GENERAL ELECTION ORDER FOR MAY 2, 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS, ORDERING A GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING QUALIFIED PERSONS TO SERVE IN THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS A MAYOR, TWO CITY COMMISSIONERS, ALL FOR A TWO (2) YEAR TERM; PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE PLACES AND MANNER OF HOLDING SAID ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR EARLY VOTING; PROVIDING FOR THE POSTING AND PUBLICATION OF NOTICE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY AND CONFLICTS CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Starbase, Texas is a General Law municipality located in Cameron County, Texas created in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Local Government Code operating pursuant to the enabling legislation of the State of Texas; and

**WHEREAS**, Texas Local Government Code section 24.023(c) requires that the City hold its first regular election within one year of incorporating as Type C general law municipality; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 41.001 of the Texas Election Code, as amended, establishes the first Saturday in May as the uniform election date which is May 2, 2026, for the purposes of conducting an election within the City of Starbase, Texas (“City”); and

**WHEREAS**, Section 3.004(a)(3) of the Texas Election Code provides that the governing body of a municipality shall be the authority to order a general election for electing municipal officers; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms of office for the Mayor and City Commissioners all expire on May 3, 2026, and must be filled by a general election.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STARBASE, TEXAS:**

**Section 1. Finding.**

The facts and recitations contained in the preamble of this ordinance are hereby found and declared to be true and correct legislative findings and are adopted as part of this ordinance for all purposes.

**Section 2. Election Order; Election Day; Purpose of Election.**

The City Commission of Starbase, Texas hereby orders that a general election of the City shall be held on May 2, 2026, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., at those designated polling places determined by the Cameron County Elections Administrator, for the following purposes:

- (1) To elect a Mayor for a two (2) year term;
- (2) To elect a City Commissioner for a two (2) year term;
- (3) To elect a City Commissioner for a two (2) year term;

**Section 3. Candidate Filing Deadline.**

Eligible candidates for Mayor and City Commissioner may file with the City Clerk of the City of Starbase, Texas (“City Clerk”), for one of the open election positions beginning on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 13, 2026. The last date and time for a write-in candidate shall be 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 17, 2026.

**Section 4. Election Precincts; Polling Places.**

All election precincts, early voting sites and Election Day polling sites shall be determined by the Cameron County Elections Administrator pursuant to the Election Services Agreement.

**Section 5. Appointment of a Presiding Election Judge, and Alternate Presiding Election Judge; Notice of Appointment.**

A Presiding Judge and Alternate Presiding Judge for all designated polling places shall be appointed by Cameron County, and pursuant to an election agreement to be entered between the City and the County, and in accordance with Section 32.009 of the Texas Election Code.

**Section 6. Early Voting; Early Voting Polling Place(s).**

Early voting shall commence in the Cameron County Elections on Monday, April 20, 2026, (as well as at any other polling site(s) determined by the Cameron County Elections Administrator), and shall close on Tuesday, April 28, 2026. During the lawful early voting by personal appearance period (April 20, 2026, through April 28, 2026), the City Clerk (or designated personnel of the City’s Clerk) shall keep such place(s) for early voting open for early voting as follows:

|                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| April 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 | 9:00 am to 6:00 pm  |
| April 25 (Saturday)      | 10:00 am to 5:00 pm |
| April 27, 28             | 9:00 am to 6:00 pm  |

**Section 7. Election Compliance.**

This election shall be held in accordance with, and shall be governed by, the election laws of the State of Texas under the jurisdiction of the Election Officer pursuant to an election services contract between the City and the County, and other participating entities, if any as set out in the Election Agreement for Cameron County and the City of Starbase. In all City elections, the Mayor, City Clerk, or City Commission shall perform each act to the extent required to be performed, in connection with the holding and consummation of such election.

**Section 8. Voting Qualifications; Voting Materials.**

All registered qualified voters of the City shall be permitted to vote at the election. In addition, the election materials enumerated in the Texas Election Code, as amended, shall be printed in English and Spanish for use at the polling places and for early voting for the election.

**Section 9. Compensation for Services.**

The Presiding Election Judge, Alternative Presiding Judge, and each Election Clerk shall be compensated as set out in the Election Agreement for Cameron County and City of Starbase, and as determined by the County Elections Office.

**Section 10. Notices.**

The City Clerk is hereby ordered and directed to give notice of the general election by:

- (a) Publishing the notice of the election at least once, no more than thirty (30) days nor less than ten (10) days before the election in the official newspaper of the City;
- (b) Filing with the City Clerk, a copy of the notice of the elections;
- (c) Posting a copy of the election notice on the bulletin board used for posting notices of the meetings of the City Commission at least twenty-one (21) days before the election; and
- (d) Delivering notice of the election to the Cameron County Clerk no later than the 60<sup>th</sup> day before Election Day.

The City Clerk shall file in the City's records a copy of the Publisher's Affidavit, which complies with the Texas Election Code, as amended, that the notice was published, with the name of the newspaper and the dates of publication.

**Section 11. Severability Clause; Conflicts with Election Services Agreement.**

It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Commission that the phrases, clauses, and sentences of this Ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs, and sections of this Ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Commission without the incorporation of this Ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, or section. Additionally, it is the intent of the City Commission by adopting this ordinance to fully comply with the terms of the state election law. Should any conflict arise between any term of this ordinance and state election law, it is the express intent of the City Commission that the terms of state election law should control and govern the administration of the general and special election addressed in this ordinance.

**Section 12. Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND APPROVED** by the City Commission of the City of Starbase, Texas this the 8th day of January 2026.

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Bobby Peden, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Caroline Cole, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Marie Johnson, City Attorney