

ORDINANCE NO. 2023-0620

AN ORDINANCE DECLARING A VACANCY FOR ONE AT-LARGE CITY COUNCIL POSITION FOR THE CITY OF COOLIDGE; CALLING FOR A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF FILLING SAID VACANCY; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Baily Barlow Morant and Rickie Mullins have resigned their positions as a member of the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the remaining members of the City Council have accepted their resignations and declared their positions on the Coolidge City Council vacant; and

WHEREAS, the City of Coolidge called a special election to be held on June 20, 2023 to fill two vacancies on the City Council of the City of Coolidge; and

WHEREAS, two candidates submitted applications to qualify for the two vacancies on the City Council and only one was qualified leaving one position vacant;

WHEREAS, it is the duty and responsibility of the Mayor and City Council to call a special election to fill vacancies on the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of Coolidge, and it is hereby ordained by authority of the same, as follows:


**Section 1.** Pursuant to the Charter of the City of Coolidge and the Georgia Elections Code, as amended through the regular 2023 session of the Georgia Special Assembly, and as provided by O.C.G.A. § 21-2-540, a Special Election for an unexpired terms ending on December 31, 2025, shall be held under the following terms and conditions:

1. Said election shall be held on November 7, 2023.
2. The hours of the election shall be between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.
3. The election shall be held pursuant to the provisions of the laws of the State of Georgia as enacted and amended. Provided further, the Charter of the City of Coolidge and amendments thereto shall be in force and effect where same were not repealed or modified by the laws of the State of Georgia.
4. For the purposes of this election, the Thomas County Board of Elections and Registration is designated as the Election Superintendent of the municipality. Meritta Patillo is Superintendent of Qualifying. The Thomas County Board of Elections and Registration shall be the absentee ballot clerk. The Thomas County Board of Elections and Registration shall name all poll workers.

5. The Dominion Voting System which includes the BMD machine, printers and scanners shall be used for the conduct of this election.
6. The election shall be held at Coolidge City Hall, located at 3065 S. Pine Street, in Coolidge, Georgia.
7. Each candidate seeking a position on the City Council shall file a notice of candidacy in the office of the City Clerk at Coolidge City Hall, 3065 S. Pine Street, Coolidge, Georgia, on or before August 25, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. but not prior to August 21, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.
8. The qualifying fee for a position on the City Council is \$27.00.
9. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-216, any person who is a resident of the City of Coolidge and a qualified elector of the City of Coolidge shall be eligible to vote in this election. The registrar shall cease taking applications for registration from persons desiring to vote in this election on the close of the registrar's business on October 10, 2023, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 21-2-224.
10. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-132(d)(3), the public notice attached hereto as "Exhibit A" shall be published in the *Times Enterprise* once during the week of August 7, 2023.
11. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. § 21-2-9(b), the public notice attached hereto as "Exhibit B" shall be published in the *Times Enterprise* once during the week of October 2, 2023.

SO ORDAINED, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2023.

CITY OF COOLIDGE

  
Diane H. Causey  
Mayor, Diane H. Causey

By: \_\_\_\_\_

(SEAL)

Attest: Stephanie Mock

Lisa O. Sheffield  
Clerk, Lisa O. Sheffield

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**CITY OF COOLIDGE**

**SPECIAL ELECTION**

**ONE AT-LARGE POSITION ON CITY COUNCIL**

**November 7, 2023**

The City of Coolidge will hold a Special Election on November 7, 2023. Candidates may qualify in the office of the City Clerk at City Hall, 3065 S. Pine Street, Coolidge Georgia. Qualifying will open August 21, 2023, and close on August 25, 2023. The hours of qualifying each day shall be from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 noon and from 1:00 p.m. until 4:30 p.m. The qualifying fee for a position on the City Council is \$27.00 and must be paid at the time the candidate qualifies.

All persons desiring to vote in said election must be registered no later than 5:00 p.m. on October 10, 2023. Advanced and absentee voting for the election begins on October 16, 2023. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 27, 2023. If you have any questions, please call (229) 346-3551.

**“EXHIBIT B”**

**CITY OF COOLIDGE  
NOTICE OF ELECTION**

The City of Coolidge will hold a Special Election on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. The polling place shall be at City Hall, located at 3065 S. Pine Street, Coolidge, Georgia. The election shall be for one at-large position on the City Council.

All persons desiring to vote in said election must be registered no later than 5:00 p. m. on October 10, 2023. Advanced and absentee voting for the election begins on October 16, 2023. The deadline to request an absentee ballot is October 27, 2023. If you have any questions please call (229) 346-3551.