

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor and City Council

From: Andy Quittner, City Attorney

Date: June 11, 2020

Subject: Resolution Calling a General and Special Election for November

3, 2020.

This year, as dictated by the City Charter, an election must be held to elect a Mayor and City Council Members for Districts One, Two, Four and Six. The election is to be on the uniform election day which is November 3, 2020.

The County manages the election in conjunction with the other municipalities, school districts and special districts (that contract is presented at this meeting by separate resolution). Since the County now uses vote centers and resident can vote at any polling location within the county. Wherever they are they will receive the proper ballot – including that for their council district.

Because the State is extending the early voting time frame the State is still working out both dates and places. As soon as these are finalized the Order and Notice of Election will be brought to Council for approval.

On the ballot there are nine suggested changes to the City Charter (explanations on separate sheet). During the 2019 legislative session a number of changes were made to publication requirements and to the budget process. Most of the suggested changes remove requirements to publish in the local newspaper and replace that requirement with "in the manner required by State law." Required publication in a local paper is dwindling. Given that the official paper for Seguin is only published twice a week – timing of publication notices is extremely difficult (as well as expensive). Some of the other changes are for flexibility (council dates) and to prepare, ahead, for the population growth being experienced by Seguin (municipal judge and city attorney).

Candidates may begin filing on July 20, 2020 with the final date being August 17, 2020. Since this is a presidential election year, many deadlines are earlier.