

**THE STATE OF TEXAS** §  
**COUNTY OF DIMMIT** §  
**CITY OF CARRIZO SPRINGS** §

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the City Council of the City of Carrizo Springs, Texas has called a **Special Session** at the City Hall Municipal Building, 308 West Pena Street, Carrizo Springs, Texas, 78834 on **Monday, August 28, 2023**, commencing at **12:00 p.m.** for considering the following items of business:

### **CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente called the meeting to order at approximately 12:00 p.m.

### **ROLL CALL & ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

The Council conducted their own roll call and declared the following Councilmembers present:

<b>Oscar E. Puente</b>	<b>Mayor</b>
<b>Noel Galván</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
<b>Estanislado Z. Martinez</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
<b>Melissa M. Guerra</b>	<b>Interim City Manager/City Clerk</b>

#### **Absent:**

<b>Sofia Morones</b>	<b>Councilor</b>
<b>Mario Ruiz</b>	<b>Mayor Pro Tem</b>

A quorum was established.

#### **STAFF:**

**Francisco R. Ponce, Municipal Judge**

### **WELCOME & RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente welcomed and recognized all guests present.

Juanita Moreno, Estella Garcia, Elvia Muñoz, Rene Hernández, Joe Vásquez, Guadalupe M. Navarro, Pat Domínguez, Claudia McDaniel, Sonia Guerrero-Perez, Francisco G. Ponce, Gracy M. Ponce

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The City Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **CITIZEN'S COMMENTS**

Elvia Munoz states to Council that she is disappointed with them because they were elected by the citizens to do what is best for the City of Carrizo Springs. She also states that Francisco R. Ponce is doing a good job and the Council should keep him as the Municipal Judge.

Gracy M. Ponce states to Council that they should not select a new judge for political reasons and should base their decision on Municipal Judge Francisco R. Ponce's 12 years of experience and his work performance.

Francisco G. Ponce states to Council to do what is right and to select a municipal judge that is best qualified.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT SPECIAL COUNSEL IN THE FRANCISCO R. PONCE VS. CITY OF CARRIZO SPRINGS LITIGATION**

Special Counsel Bobby Maldonado states to Council that a lawsuit has been filed against the City of Carrizo Springs by Francisco R. Ponce and that Mr. Ponce was a former client in another lawsuit against the city and therefore he cannot represent the city. Special Counsel Bobby Maldonado states that he has filed a motion to withdraw and the hearing has been set for today at 3:30 p.m.

Motion made by Councilor Noel Galvan, seconded by Councilor Estanislado Martinez to appoint Special Counsel Itzel Martinez Santos – Martinez Santos Law Firm, PLLC to represent the city in the Francisco R. Ponce vs. City of Carrizo Springs litigation.

Vote for approval 3-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente convened into Executive Session at 12:28 p.m.

*CITY COUNCIL WILL CONVENE IN CLOSED MEETING AS AUTHORIZED BY THE PROVISION OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, CHAPTER 551 OF THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE. THIS CLOSED SESSION IS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION: PERSONNEL 551.074; LEGAL SECTION 551.071*

### **2. REVIEW OF APPLICATONS FOR MUNICIPAL JUDGE CANDIDATES**

### **3. DISCUSSION ON ADOPTING A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A MUNICIPAL JUDGE FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS**

## **OPEN SESSION**

Mayor Oscar E. Puente reconvened into Special Session at 1:06 p.m.

### **4. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO APPOINT A MUNICIPAL JUDGE AFTER REVIEWING APPLICATIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL JUDGE POSITION**

No action taken.

### **5. CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ADOPTING RESOLUTION NO. 587 A RESOLUTION TO APPOINT A MUNICIPAL JUDGE FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS**

Motion made by Councilor Noel Galvan, seconded by Councilor Estanislado Z. Martinez to approve Resolution No. 587 a resolution to appoint Sonia Guerrero Perez to the office Municipal Judge for a term of two years effective September 1, 2023 and expire August 31, 2025 with a salary of \$30,000 per year.

Vote for approval 3-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Councilor Noel Galvan, seconded by Councilor Estanislado Z. Martinez to adjourn.

Vote for approval 3-0 (unanimous).

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:07 p.m.

/s/Oscar E. Puente  
**Oscar E. Puente, Mayor**  
**City of Carrizo Springs**

**ATTEST:**

/s/Melissa M. Guerra  
**Melissa M. Guerra, City Clerk**  
**City of Carrizo Springs**