AN ORDINANCE ORDERING A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN ON A DATE TO BE DETERMINED, TO SUBMIT TO THE VOTERS A COUNCIL-INITIATED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO ALLOW CITY COUNCIL TO PROVIDE FOR A DIRECTOR OF POLICE OVERSIGHT WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED AND REMOVED AS PROVIDED BY FUTURE ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR THE CONDUCT OF THE SPECIAL ELECTION, INCLUDING AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO ENTER INTO JOINT ELECTION AGREEMENTS WITH OTHER LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THE ELECTION; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. A charter amendment election shall be held in the City on [DATE], at which the ballot shall be prepared to permit voting “Yes” or “No” on the following proposition:

Proposition G: Shall the City Charter be amended to allow city council to provide for a director of police oversight who shall be appointed and removed as provided by ordinance?

PART 2 – If Proposition G is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, Article V (Administrative Organization) of the City Charter is amended to add Section 7, to read as follows:

ARTICLE V. – ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION.

§ 7. – Director of Police Oversight.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, the city council may provide for a director of police oversight who shall be appointed and may be removed as provided by ordinance. The director shall have such duties, responsibilities, and staff as provided by ordinance, including the responsibility to ensure transparency and accountability as it relates to policing.

PART 3. The election shall be conducted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. The location of the main early voting polling place, the dates and hours for
early voting, and the early voting clerk’s official mailing address are provided in Exhibit A, attached and incorporated as a part of this ordinance.

PART 4. A direct electronic recording voting system, as the term is defined in Title 8 of the Texas Election Code, shall be used for early voting and for voting conducted on election day. The central counting station is established at the Travis County Elections Division, 5501 Airport Boulevard, Austin, Texas.

PART 5. Notice of this election shall be posted and published in accordance with state law. The notice shall be posted, in both English and Spanish, in the office of the City Clerk and at the City Hall notice kiosk not later than the 21st day before election day. Notice of this election shall be published one time, in English and Spanish, not earlier than the 30th day before the date of the election or later than the 10th day before the date of the election, in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Austin.

PART 6. In accordance with Chapter 271 of the Texas Election Code, the (DATE) special municipal election may be held jointly with the various political subdivisions that share territory with the City of Austin and that are holding elections on that day. The City Clerk may enter and sign joint election agreements with other political subdivisions for this purpose, and their terms as stated in the agreements are hereby adopted.

PART 7. The Council finds that the need to immediately begin required preparations for this election constitutes an emergency. Because of this emergency, this ordinance takes effect immediately on its passage for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

PASSED AND APPROVED

________________________, 2021

Steve Adler
Mayor

APPROVED: Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST: Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk