

City of Rockdale, Texas

Charter Amendments

Special Election May 2, 2026

The following 15 ballot initiatives recommended by the Charter review commission are as follows:

1. In various sections stipulate that regulations be “in accordance with State law” where recommended.
2. Reduce eligibility requirement for an individual running for a Council that they be a resident of their Ward for 6 consecutive months prior to filing, instead of 12. (Still requiring city residence for 12 months.)
3. Stipulate that any elected official shall automatically vacate their position, upon formally filing to run for another elective office.
4. Stipulate that Rockdale elected officials shall receive compensation in the amount of \$300 per month for Mayor and \$150 per month for Council members beginning in May 2028.
5. Allow for the Mayor to vote in all matters not inconsistent with state law and recommend appointees
6. Allow for Council to appoint a Mayor in the case of a vacancy to that seat when allowed by state law.
7. Remove from list of powers and duties of city council in Article 4.03: sections (n) which refer to establishing an electric utility, and (s) which gives authority to regulate, license, and establish fares and charges for vehicular transport of people, goods, or services.
8. Extend minimum time from “not more than 5 days” to “not more than 10 days” to hold a required public hearing in the case of a recall of an elected official.
9. Requires the City Manager to establish permanent residency within the city limits within 3 months of starting, unless authorized by council otherwise.
10. Make recommended changes to the Municipal Court including removing language that the Mayor may act as judge in the judge’s absence or incapacity.

11. Require amendments to the annual budget be made by Ordinance (instead of by Resolution)
12. Allow that an audit of an outside agency receiving 50% of its budget “May” be required. (instead of “Shall” be required)
13. Allow that an ordinance authorizing a franchise agreement may be adopted after one reading following a public hearing.
14. Stipulate that the Ethics Commission “may” be advised by independent legal Council “recommended” by the City Attorney and appointed by Council, (changing “Shall” to “May” and “nominated” to “recommended”).
15. Replace the terms “District” or “Precinct”, with the term “Ward” where appropriate throughout the charter