

RESOLUTION NO. 26-04

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST, CALIFORNIA, CALLING FOR THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON TUESDAY, JUNE 2, 2026 FOR THE SUBMISSION TO THE VOTERS A QUESTION RELATING TO LOCAL BALLOT MEASURE CLARIFYING AND RESETTING THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND RESETTING AND CHANGING THE TERM OF ELECTED MAYOR

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the laws relating to general-law cities in the State of California, a General Municipal Election shall be held on June 2, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to submit to the voters at the election a question relating to Council Member term limits and how they apply to appointed positions and to extend the term of Elected Mayor to four (4) years.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST, CALIFORNIA, DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Call for General Municipal Election: Pursuant to the requirements of the laws of the State of California relating to General-Law Cities, there is called and ordered to be held in the City of Ridgecrest, California, on Tuesday, June 2, 2026, a General Municipal Election for the purpose of submitting two measures for voters' consideration as set out below.

SECTION 2. The City Council, pursuant to its right and authority, does submit to the voters at the General Municipal Election the following question:

City of Ridgecrest Council Member Term Measure. In order to correct an ambiguity, shall the City of Ridgecrest Municipal Code be amended to change term limits from 8 consecutive years to two 4-year terms, and provide, for purposes of term limits, that any council member appointed to a partial term of more than two years shall be deemed to have served a full term for the purposes of determining term limits?	YES
	NO

SECTION 3. The City Council, pursuant to its right and authority, does submit to the voters at the General Municipal Election the following question:

City of Ridgecrest 4-year Mayoral Term Measure. Shall the City of Ridgecrest Municipal Code be amended to provide for the term of an Elected Mayor to be four (4) years to be the same as the terms of elected Council Members?	YES
	NO

The proposed complete text of the measures submitted to the voters is attached as Exhibit A.

SECTION 4. The vote requirement for the measure to pass is a majority (50% + 1) of the votes cast.

SECTION 5. Ballots: The ballots to be used at the election shall be in form and content as required by law.

SECTION 6. Coordination: The City Clerk is authorized, instructed and directed to coordinate with the County of Kern Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to procure and furnish any and all official ballots, notices, printed matter and all supplies, equipment and paraphernalia that may be necessary in order to properly and lawfully conduct the election.

SECTION 7. Vote Centers: The vote centers for the election shall be open at 7:00 A.M. of the day of the election and shall remain open continuously from that time until 8:00 P.M. of the same day when the vote centers shall be closed, pursuant to Election Code § 10242, except as provided in §§ 14212, 14401 of the Elections Code of the State of California.

SECTION 8. General: In all particulars not recited in this resolution, the election shall be held and conducted as provided by law governing municipal elections.

SECTION 9. Notice: Notice of the time and place of holding the election is hereby given and the City Clerk is authorized, instructed and directed to give further or additional notice of the election, in time, form and manner as required by law.

SECTION 10. Authorization for Payment: The City Council authorizes the City Clerk to administer said election and authorizes all reasonable and actual election expenses to be paid by the City upon presentation of a properly-submitted bill.

SECTION 11. Certification: The City Clerk shall certify to the passage and adoption of this resolution and shall enter the same in the Book of Original Resolutions.

APPROVED and **PASSED** this 4th day of February, 2026.

City of Ridgecrest

BY

Travis Endicott, Mayor

RICCA CHARLON, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARTIN KOCZANOWICZ, City Attorney

CERTIFICATION

I, Ricca Charlon, Chief City Clerk of the City of Ridgecrest, do hereby certify that Resolution No. 26-04 was duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest at a regular meeting held on the 4th day of February, 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Endicott, Blades, Hayman, Gorman

NOES: None

ABSENT: Rajaratnam

RICCA CHARLON, Chief City Clerk

ORDINANCE NO. 26-01

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST AMENDING THE RIDGECREST MUNICIPAL CODE CLARIFYING HOW TERM OF OFFICE IS CALCULATED WITH APPOINTED COUNCIL MEMBERS AND SETTING THE TERM OF ELECTED MAYOR AT FOUR YEARS

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the laws relating to general-law cities in the State of California, a General Municipal Election was held on June 2, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desired to submit to the voters at the election a question relating to Council Member term limits and how they apply to appointed positions and to extend the term of Elected Mayor to four (4) years; and

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2026, the voters passed a measure directing the City Council to amend the Ridgecrest Municipal Code to reflect that an appointed council term of 2 years or more counted as a full term for the purpose of determining term limits; and

WHEREAS, on June 2nd 2026, the voters passed a measure ___ directing the City Council to amend the Ridgecrest Municipal Code to reflect that the term of office for the directly-elected mayor shall be four (4) years, rather than two (2) years.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RIDGECREST, CALIFORNIA DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The recitals above are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2. Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-25 of the Filmore Municipal Code is amended to read as follows (deletions indicated in ~~strike through~~, additions in ***bold and italics***):

“Sec. 2-25. - Mayor, vice-mayor, and mayor pro tempore. **Terms of Service.**

(a) The vice-mayor has all the powers and duties of the mayor when the mayor or mayor pro tempore are absent or unable to act.

(b) The council shall meet as soon as new council members take office after a general municipal election to choose one of its members to serve as mayor pro tempore and one of its members to serve as vice-mayor.

(c) Any person who has held the office of member of the city council for ~~eight consecutive years~~ ***two consecutive 4-year terms*** shall not be eligible to hold such office until at least two years have passed since such person last held such office. In no event

shall any person be eligible to serve as a member of the city council for more than ~~eight consecutive years~~ **two consecutive 4-year terms. An appointed term shall only count as a term for the purposes of this subdivision if it is for a period of more than two years.**

(d) In the event that the office of mayor is separately elected from the city council, any person who has held any combination of the offices of member of the city council and mayor for ~~eight consecutive years~~ **two consecutive terms** shall no longer be eligible to hold either the office of member of the city council or the office of mayor until at least two years have passed since such person last served in either capacity. In no event shall any person be eligible to serve in any combination of member of the city council and mayor for more than ~~eight consecutive years~~ **two consecutive terms. An appointed term shall only count as a term for the purposes of this subdivision if it is for a period of more than two years.**

(e) Any sitting mayor or member of the city council already in office at the time of the adoption of the limitations described in subsections (c) ,(d) and (f) of this section, or elected at any election concurrent with the adoption of the limitations described in subsections (c), (d) and (f) of this section, shall be considered to be in their first four-year term for the purpose of computing ~~years~~ **terms** of consecutive service.

(f) Upon election, the mayor shall serve for a term of four years.”

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) under Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines, which provides that CEQA only applies to projects that have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment. Where, as here, it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question would have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA.

SECTION 4. Any provision of the Ridgecrest Municipal Code or appendices thereto inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance, to the extent of such inconsistencies and no further, is hereby repealed or modified to the extent necessary to implement the provisions of his Ordinance.

SECTION 5. If any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance, or any part thereof is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance or any part thereof. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase would be subsequently declared invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 6. The Mayor shall sign and the City Clerk shall attest to the passage of this Ordinance. The City Clerk shall cause the same to be published once in the official newspaper within fifteen (15) days after its adoption. This Ordinance shall become effective upon certification of the June 2, 2026 election results by Kern County and City of Ridgecrest and only to the extent that either, or both proposed measures are approved by the voters.

First reading and introduction took place February 4, 2026.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Ridgecrest at the regular meeting of this ____ day of _____, 2026.

Travis Endicott, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ricca Charlon, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Martin Koczanowicz, City Attorney