

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SNOOK, TEXAS ESTABLISHING THE SNOOK POLICE DEPARTMENT; DESIGNATING THE CHIEF OF POLICE AS AN OFFICER OF THE CITY; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF THE POLICE CHIEF; PROVIDING FOR THE APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF POLICE OFFICERS; ESTABLISHING A RESERVE POLICE FORCE; ABOLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE MARSHAL; REPEALING CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Snook, Texas (“City”) is a Type A general law municipality incorporated and operating under the Laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Texas Local Government Code § 51.001, the City Council of the City of Snook, Texas (“City Council”) has the authority to adopt, publish, amend or repeal an ordinance that is for the good government, peace or order of the City; and

WHEREAS, Local Government Code section 341.001 authorizes a Type A general law municipality to establish and regulate a municipal police force and provide for the appointment and qualifications, by ordinance, of police officers as deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS, Local Government Code section 341.012 authorizes a municipality to establish and regulate a reserve police force and provide for the appointment and qualifications, by ordinance of reserve police officers as deemed necessary; and

WHEREAS, Local Government Code section 22.076 provides the governing body of a municipality with a population of less than 5,000 may by ordinance abolish the office of marshal and, at the same time in the ordinance, confer the duties of the office on a municipal police officer appointed as the governing body directs or on any other peace officer of the county; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the City and its residents to establish the Snook Police Department as a municipal department, create the municipal office of Chief of Police, establish qualifications for such officer, authorize the appointment of police officers, establish qualifications for such police officers, and abolish the office of City Marshal and confer the duties of the marshal to the Chief of Police and officers of the police department as provided for in this Ordinance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SNOOK, TEXAS THAT:

I. FINDINGS OF FACT.

That all the above and foregoing premises to this Ordinance are hereby found to be true and correct legislative and factual findings of the City Council, and are hereby approved and incorporated into the body of this Ordinance as if copied in their entirety.

II. ESTABLISHMENT OF CHIEF OF POLICE.

The Office of the Chief of Police of the City of Snook, Texas is hereby created and established as a municipal officer of the City of Snook, Texas.

III. ESTABLISHMENT OF SNOOK POLICE DEPARTMENT.

The Snook Police Department is hereby created and established as a municipal department of the City of Snook, Texas consisting of a Chief of Police and such other commissioned police officers as the City Council may from time to time deem necessary.

IV. ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICE RESERVE FORCE.

Under authority of Local Government Code section 341.012, the City Council hereby establishes a Police Reserve Force of the City of Snook, Texas. The Police Reserve Force may consist of any number of officers appointed by the Chief of Police, provided such officers meet the qualifications as provided for by law, and serve at the discretion of the Chief of Police. The Chief of Police is hereby authorized and directed, as deemed necessary, to request the City Secretary, or authorized financial officer or employee of the City, to reimburse any member of the Police Reserve Force for uniform expenses, and the City Secretary, or authorized financial officer or employee of the City, is authorized to approve such requests for reimbursement when the request has been properly made.

V. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF CHIEF OF POLICE.

- A. Under authority of Local Government Code section 22.071, the City Council of the City of Snook, Texas, has established the Chief of Police as a municipal officer.
- B. The City Council is hereby authorized to appoint the Chief of Police by majority vote. The Chief of Police shall be appointed by the City Council, upon the recommendation of the Mayor, and shall have such powers and duties as are commonly specified for such an officer in state law or as provided for under City ordinance.
- C. The Chief of Police shall not be employed by any business or doing business with the City and shall hold no office with any other governmental agency. This provision shall not be interpreted to prevent the Chief of Police from holding offices in a non-profit or civic organization.
- D. The Chief of Police may be removed from office by the City Council pursuant to Local Government Code section 22.077 "Removal of Municipal Officers," as may be amended.
- E. The members of the Snook Police Department shall be under the authority, control, and command of the Chief of Police, subject to the federal and state laws, and City

ordinances. The Chief of Police is authorized to establish the positions of Lieutenant, Sergeant, Corporal, as permitted by the City Council, and fill these positions as permitted by the fiscal budget of the City. Any appointment by the Chief of Police is subject to final approval of the City Council.

- F. The Chief of Police is granted all powers, duties, and responsibilities defined in Texas Local Government Code §341.021, as amended, and in addition shall:
1. Execute warrants, subpoenas, and other legal process issuing out of the City of the Snook Municipal Court, as determined by the Municipal Judge.
 2. Execute other warrants of arrest, subpoenas, and legal process as authorized by law and as determined by the Municipal Judge.
 3. Serve as the court bailiff and provide security to the City of Snook Municipal Court.
 4. Any other duties authorized by the Municipal Judge in consultation with the Mayor, City Council or the Court Clerk.
 5. Execute the same power and jurisdiction as a peace officer under the Code of Criminal Procedure to prevent and suppress crime, arrest offenders, execute warrants.
 6. During times of a declared emergency issued by the Mayor of the City of Snook to serve under the Mayor's direction to keep the peace and ensure public safety.

VI. APPOINTMENT AND QUALIFICATIONS OF POLICE FORCE.

- A. Under authority of Local Government Code Chapter 341, the City Council of the City of Snook, Texas, has established a Police Department consisting of a Chief of Police and such other commissioned police officers as the City Council may from time to time deem necessary.
- B. A commissioned police officer shall be certified and licensed as a Texas Peace Officer by the State of Texas and shall meet any additional hiring standards as set by the Chief of Police, based on customary standards and practices.
- C. A commissioned police officer shall have all the powers, duties and obligations placed upon them by Texas law, including the authority to make arrests, keep the peace and do and perform each and every act that a peace officer is authorized to do, under the laws of the State of Texas, by City ordinance, the City of Snook Police Department Policy and Procedure Manual, and any lawful order by the Chief of Police.
- D. A commissioned police officer serves at the pleasure of the City Council.
- E. A commissioned police officer shall execute a bond if required by the City Council, with such bond conditioned on the officer's faithful performance of his or her duties.

VII. ABOLITION OF MARSHAL.

The City Marshal's Office as established by City of Snook Ordinance No. 08-09 is hereby abolished pursuant to section 22.076 of the Local Government Code and the duties of the office

of the Marshal as provided by Local Government Code section 341.021, as amended, are conferred upon the Chief of Police or the Chief of Police's designee.

VIII. SEVERABILITY.

Should any part, sentence or phrase of this Ordinance be determined to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, the validity of the remaining portions of this Ordinance shall not be adversely affected. No portion of this Ordinance shall fail or become inoperative by reason of the invalidity of any other part. All provisions of this Ordinance are declared to be severable.

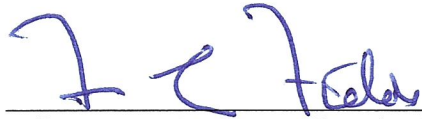
IX. PROPER NOTICE AND MEETING.

It is hereby officially found and determined that the meeting at which this Ordinance was adopted was open to the public and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551 of the Texas Government Code.

X. CONDITIONAL EFFECTIVENESS; TRANSITION FROM CITY MARSHAL TO POLICE DEPARTMENT.

- A. The Police Department of the City of Snook is hereby established. The provisions of this Ordinance creating and organizing the Police Department shall take effect only upon the occurrence of the following conditions:
1. The appointment by the City Council of a Chief of Police; and
 2. The completion by the City of all registrations, filings, and other actions necessary to comply with applicable state laws and regulations governing the operation of a municipal law-enforcement agency and the appointment of licensed peace officers.
- B. Until the conditions set forth in Paragraph A have been satisfied, the City Marshal's Office and any deputies lawfully serving in that office shall continue to exercise the powers and perform the duties previously assigned to that office under the ordinances of the City and applicable state law.
- C. Upon satisfaction of the conditions set forth in Paragraph A, as determined by the City Council or its designee, the Police Department shall become operational and the City Marshal's Office is hereby abolished. All law-enforcement authority previously vested in the City Marshal shall thereafter be exercised by the Police Department under the direction of the Chief of Police.
- D. The City Administrator (or other designated official) shall certify to the City Council when the conditions described in Paragraph A have been satisfied, and such certification shall establish the effective date of this Ordinance.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS THE 23RD DAY OF MARCH, 2026.



HON. FRANK FIELDS, MAYOR
CITY OF SNOOK, TEXAS

ATTEST:



DAVID JUNEK, CITY ADMINISTRATOR/CITY SECRETARY
CITY OF SNOOK, TEXAS

