

CHARTER OF THE CITY OF RANGER, TEXAS

Submitted for Adoption or Rejection at Special Election held in the City of Ranger on the 3rd Day of April 1919.

THE CHARTER

ARTICLE I

SECTION 1. CORPORATE NAME: That all the inhabitants of the City of Ranger, in Eastland County, Texas, as the boundaries and limits of said city are herein established or may herein be established, shall be a body politic, incorporated under, and to be known by the name and style of the "CITY OF RANGER," with such powers, rights and duties as are herein provided.

SECTION 2. BOUNDARIES: That the boundaries and limits of said corporation shall be as follows: Beginning at the S.W. corner of the original town of Ranger, Eastland County, Texas. Thence S. 62.30 E. 1395 feet to the center of the main line track of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, where the same intersects the South boundary line of the town of Ranger; Thence S. 27.30 W. 362 feet, to the point of a 0' 45" curve to the left; thence with said curve 437 ft. to the point of a tangent. Thence S. 24' 0" W. 2447 ft. to the point of a curve 1' 0" to the right; thence with said curve 745 ft. to the point of a tangent. Thence S. 31' 30" W. 4826.5 ft. to a bolt driven in the ground in the center of the main line tracks of the Texas and Pacific Railway Company, this point being in all 8896 feet from the South boundary line of the town of Ranger, Texas, the same being witnessed by an iron bolt driven in the ground 150 ft. East and one driven in the ground 150 ft. West, and being the place of beginning of this survey: THENCE West 225 varas to the West line of the Wm. Frels survey; thence North on the West line of the Wm. Frels survey about 1460 varas to the northwest corner of the Wm. Frels survey, thence East with the line between the Mark Haley and Frels surveys to the corner of the lands of McCleskey and W.R. Hodges heirs, about 50 varas; thence North to the dividing line of the McCleskey and Hodges, through the Mark Haley survey, about 700 varas; thence continuing on said line West about 100 varas; thence continuing said line North about 880 varas to the Eastland road thence continuing said line North about 730 varas on the West line of W. Rice land in the Mark Haley survey to a point on the South boundary line of the B.B.B. & C.R.R. Co. survey, thence West with said railroad company's south line about 140 varas to the South corner of same. Thence North along the West boundary line of the B.B.B. & C.R.R. line survey about 1150 varas, thence East through the lands of the B.B.B. & C.R.R. Co.'s survey and Standifer survey to the North line of the W.J. Smith survey, thence continuing East with the North line of the W.J. Smith survey and the North line of a 45-vara strip sold by W.A. Glenn to M.H. Hagaman, said strip runs the full length of the Z.C. Collier and lies on the North side of the same, in all about 5050 varas to a point on said line which would be intersected by the dividing line between Hodges and McCleskey, Gholson and Davis, Sudderth and Handry, if produced North. Thence South along the said named line through the 45 vara strip Z.C. Collier survey and James Lehea survey about 3300 varas to the

North line of the Jesse Bledsoe survey, thence West with said Bledsoe North line, about 1300 varas to the Northwest corner of said Bledsoe survey, Thence South with th4e West line of the Bledsoe survey about 1450 varas to a line which would intersect the West line of the Jesse Bledsoe survey if produced East across R.P. Marquis land from the Southwest, East and West line of Mrs. M.A. Ames land. Thence West 1100 varas, crossing R.P. Marquis land and along Mrs. M.A. Ames South boundary line to Jack Phillips land; thence through Jack Phillips and W.A. Huffman land in a Southwesterly direction about 1250 varas to J.C. Shook's Southeast corner, thence West along J.M. Shooks South line and through the lee Williams land about 1,000 varas to the place of beginning; containing about 6.35 square miles.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. CORPORATE POWERS: The City of Ranger, made a body politic and corporate by the legal adoption of this Charter, shall have perpetual succession, may use a common seal, may sue and be sued, may contract and be contracted with, impleaded in all courts and places and in all matters whatever; may take, hold and purchase lands, within or without the city limits, as may be needed for the corporate purposes of said city and may sell any real estate or personal property owned by it: perform and render all public services and when deemed expedient, may condemn property for corporate use and may hold, manage and control the same, and shall be subject to all the duties and obligations now pertaining to or incumbent upon said city as a corporation, not in conflict with the provisions of this charter, and shall enjoy all the rights immunities, powers, privileges and franchises now possessed by said city, and herein conferred and granted.

SECTION 2. POWERS OF ORDINANCE: The City of Ranger, shall have the power to enact and enforce all ordinances necessary to protect health, life and property and to prevent and summarily abate and remove all nuisances and to prevent and enforce the good government, order and security of the city and its inhabitants, and to enact and enforce ordinances on any and all subjects, provided, that no ordinance shall be enacted inconsistently with the provisions of this Charter, or the General Laws or Constitution of the State of Texas.

SECTION 2-a. The City of Ranger, in addition to all other powers hereunder shall have all of the rights and powers granted to cities and towns under the provisions of Title 28 of the Revised Statutes of 1925, said rights and powers to be cumulative of any and all powers held by said City.

As amended at an election held November 20, 1926.

SECTION 3. STYLE OF ORDINANCES: The style of all ordinances of the City of Ranger shall be: "Be it Ordained by the City of Ranger," but the same may be omitted when published by the City of Ranger.

SECTION 4. REAL ESTATE ETC., OWNED BY THE CITY: All real estate owned in fee simple title, or head by lease, sufferance, easement or otherwise; all public buildings, fire stations, parks, streets and alleys, and all property, whether real or personal, of whatever kind,

character or description now owned or controlled by the City of Ranger, shall vest in, inure to, remain and be the property of said City of Ranger.

SECTION 5. ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY: The City of Ranger, shall have the power and authority to acquire by purchase, gift, devise, deed, condemnation or otherwise any character of property, including any charitable or trust fund.

SECTION 6. PUBLIC PROPERTY EXEMPT FROM EXECUTION: Said City shall have the power to provide that no public property, or any other character of property owned or held by said city, shall be subject to any execution of any kind or nature.

SECTION 7. CITY FUNDS NOT SUBJECT TO GARNISHMENT: Said city shall have the power to provide that no funds of the city shall be subject to garnishment and that the city shall never be required to answer in any garnishment proceedings.

SECTION 8. EXEMPT FROM LIABILITY TO DAMAGES: Said city shall have the power to provide for exemption of said city from liability on account of any claim for damages to any person or property, or to fix such rules and regulations, governing the city's liability, as may be deemed advisable.

SECTION 9. RIGHT OF EMINENT DOMAIN: Said city shall have the right of eminent domain and the power to appropriate private property for public purposes whenever the governing authority shall deem it necessary; and to take any private property, within or without the city limits, for any of the following purposes to wit: City Halls, Police Stations, Jails, Calaboose, Fire Stations, and Fire Alarm Systems, Libraries, Hospitals, Sanitariums, Auditoriums, Market Houses, Reformatories, Abattoirs, Streets, Alleys, Parks, Highways, Playground, Sewer System, Storm Sewers, Sewage Disposal Plants, Filtering Beds, and Emptying Grounds for Sewer Systems, Telephone and Telegraph Systems, Gas Plants or Gas Systems, Cemeteries, Crematories, Prisons, Farms, Pest Houses, and to acquire lands within or without the city for any other municipal purposes that may be deemed advisable. That the power herein granted for the purpose of acquiring private property shall include the power of improvement and enlargement of water works, including water supply, riparian rights, stand pipes, water sheds, and the construction of reservoirs. That in all cases wherein the city exercises the power of eminent domain, it shall be controlled, as nearly as practicable by the laws governing the condemnation of property by railroad corporations in this State; the city taking the position of the railroad corporation in any such case.

SECTION 10. OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC UTILITIES: Said city shall have the power to buy, own or construct, and to maintain and operate, within or without the city limits, complete water system or systems, gas or electric lighting or power plants or plants, telephone systems, street railways, sewer systems, sewage plants, fertilizing plants, abattoirs, municipal railway terminals, or any other public service utility and to demand and receive compensation for service furnished by the city for private purposes or otherwise, and have power to regulate, by ordinance

the collection of compensation for such services, that said city shall have the power to acquire by lease, purchase or condemnation, the property of any such person, firm or corporation, now or hereafter conducting any such business, for the purpose of operating such public utility or utilities and for the purpose of distributing such service throughout the city, or any portion thereof.

SECTION 11. FUNDS FOR ACQUISITION OF ANY PUBLIC UTILITY-SECURITY FOR SAME, ETC.: That should the city determine to acquire any public utility by purchase, condemnation or otherwise, as herein provided, said city shall have the power to obtain funds for the purpose of acquiring said public utility and paying the compensation therefor, by issuing bonds or notes, or other evidences of indebtedness and shall secure the same by fixing a lien upon the property constituting the public utility so acquired, and said security shall apply alone to said property so pledged.

SECTION 12. MANUFACTURE OR PURCHASE OF PUBLIC UTILITY PRODUCTS: Said city shall have the authority to manufacture its own electricity, gas or anything else that may be needed or used by it or the public, to make contracts with any person, firm or corporation for the purchase of gas, water, electricity or any other commodity or articles used by it or the public, and to sell same to the public as may be determined by the governing authority.

SECTION 13. RIGHT TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN PUBLIC UTILITY ACQUIRED, EXCLUSIVE: In the event said city shall acquire by purchase, gift, devise, deed, condemnation or otherwise, any waterworks system, electric-light or power system, gas system, street railway system, telephone system or any other public service utility to operate and maintain such public service utility, so acquired, shall be exclusive.

SECTION 14. RIGHT TO REGULATE CHARGES, ETC., OF HOLDER OF FRANCHISE OR PRIVILEGE: Said city shall have the power to determine, fix and regulate the charges, fares and rates of any person, firm or corporation exercising or that may hereafter exercise, any right of franchise or public privileges in said city, and to prescribe the kind of service to be furnished, the equipment to be used, the manner in which service shall be rendered and to change such regulations from time to time; that in order to ascertain all the facts necessary for a proper understanding of what is or should be reasonable rate regulation, the governing authority shall have full power to inspect the books and other records of such person, firm or corporation and to compel the attendance of witnesses for such purpose; provided that in adopting such regulations and in fixing or changing such compensation, no stock or bond authorized or issued by any person, firm or corporation exercising such franchise or privilege shall be considered unless proof be made that the same have been actually issued by such person, firm or corporation for money, or its equivalent, paid and used for the development of the property under investigation.

SECTION 15. STREET POWERS: The City of Ranger shall have exclusive dominion, control and jurisdiction in, upon, over and under the public streets, avenues, alleys and highways

of the city and to provide for the improvement thereof by paving, raising, grading, draining or otherwise, and to charge the cost of making such improvement against the abutting property, by fixing a lien against the same and a personal charge against the owner thereof, according to an assessment specially levied therefor, in an amount not to exceed the special benefit any such property received in enhanced value by reason of such improvements, and to provide for the issuance of assignable certificates covering the payment for said improvements; provided, that in no event shall more than three-fourths of the cost of such improvement be charged to the owner and made a lien against said abutting property; it being further provided that all street railway, steam railways and other railways shall pay the entire cost of improving said streets, avenues, alleys and highways between the rails and tracks of any such railway companies, and for a distance of two feet on each side thereof.

SECTION 16. CONSTRUCTION OF SIDEWALKS AND CURBS: Said city shall have the power to provide for the construction and building of sidewalks and charge the entire cost of construction of said sidewalks including the curb, against the owner of the abutting property and to make a special charge against the owner for such cost, and to provide by special assessment, a lien against such property for such cost.

SECTION 17. SIDEWALKS, IMPROVEMENT DEFECTIVE MAY BE DECLARED NUISANCE: Said city shall have the power to provide for the construction, improvement or repair of any such sidewalk, or the construction of any such curb, by penal ordinance, and to declare defective sidewalks to be a public nuisance.

SECTION 18. FRANCHISES FOR USE OF STREETS: Said city shall have the power and authority to grant franchises for the use and occupancy of streets, avenues, alleys and any and all public grounds belonging to or under the control of the city. No telegraph, telephone, electric light or power, street railway, interurban railway, or steam railway, gas company, waterworks, water systems or any other character of public utility shall be granted any franchise or permitted the use of any street, avenue, ally highway or grounds of the city without first making application to and obtaining the consent of the governing authorities thereto, expressed by ordinance, and upon paying such compensation as may be prescribed, and upon such conditions as may be provided for such ordinance, and before such ordinance proposing to make any grant or franchise or privilege to any applicant to use or occupy any streets, avenue, alley or any other public ground belonging to or under control of the city, shall become effective, publication of said ordinance, as finally proposed to be passed, shall be made in some newspaper published in the City of Ranger once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks, which publication shall be made at the expense of the applicant desiring said grant and said proposed ordinance shall not be thereafter changed unless again republished as in the first instance, not shall any such ordinance take effect or become a law or contract or vest any rights in the applicant therefor, until after the expiration of thirty days from the last publication of said ordinance as aforesaid.

Pending the time such ordinance may become effective, it is hereby made the duty of the governing authority of the city to order an election if requested to do so by written petition signed

by at least ten (10) per cent of the legally qualified voters, as determined by the number of votes cast in the last regular municipal election, at which election the qualified voters of said city shall vote for or against the proposed grant, as set forth in detail by the ordinance conferring the rights and privileges upon the application therefor. Such election shall be ordered not less than thirty (30) days nor more than ninety (90) days from the date of filing said petition, and if at said election the majority of the votes cast shall be for granting such franchise or privilege, said ordinance and the making of said proposed grant shall thereupon become effective, but if a majority of the votes cast at said election shall be against the granting of such franchise or privilege, such ordinance shall be ineffective and the making of such proposed grant be null and void.

SECTION 19. PUBLIC WORKS IMPROVEMENTS: Said city shall have the power to open, extend, straighten and widen any public street, avenue or alley and for such purpose to acquire the necessary land by purchase or condemnation and to provide that the cost of improving any such streets, avenue or alley by opening, extending, straightening or widening the same shall be paid by the owner of property lying in the territory of such improvement and which is specially benefitted thereby, and to provide that the cost shall be charged by special assessment against such owner and his property for the amount due by him, and three (3) Special Commissioners shall be appointed by the County Judge of Eastland County, Texas, for the purpose of condemning said land and apportioning said cost, and such apportionment shall be specially assigned by the governing authority of said city against the owners and their property lying in the territory so found by said Special Commissioners, to be specially benefitted in enhance value, and said city may issue assignable certificates for the payment of any such cost against such property owner and his property, and may provide for the payment thereof in deferred payments, which deferred payments, shall bear interest at the rate of not exceeding eight (8) per cent per annum. Said city shall pay such portion of cost as may be determined by Special Commissioners, to be due, by it; provided the cost paid by the city shall never exceed one-third (1/3) of the cost of such improvement.

SECTION 20. ALTERING STREETS, OBSTRUCTIONS, ENFORCEMENTS, ETC.: Said city shall have the power to control, regulate, and remove all obstructions, encroachments and encumbrances on any public street, avenue, or alley and to narrow, alter, widen, vacate and perpetually close any public street, avenue, or alley, or any part thereof, and to regulate and control the movement of buildings and structures of every kind and character upon and along the same. As amended at an election held on May 23, 1921.

SECTION 21. PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, ETC.: Said city shall have exclusive control over all city parks, and playgrounds and control, regulate and remove all obstructions and prevent all encroachments thereupon; and to provide for raising, grading, filling, terracing, landscape gardening, erecting buildings, provide amusements therein, for establishing walks and paving driveways around in and through said parks, playgrounds and other public grounds.

SECTION 22. PEACE AND GOOD ORDER: Said city shall have the power to define all

nuisances, prohibit the same within the city and outside the city limits for a distance of five thousand (5000) feet; to police all parks, grounds, speedways, streets, avenues and alleys owned by said city, within or without the city limits; to prohibit the pollution of all sources of water supply of said city, and to provide for the protection of water sheds.

To provide for the inspection of dairies, cows and dairy herds, slaughter pens, and slaughter houses and abattoirs, within or without the city limits, from which meat, milk, butter or eggs from same are furnished to the inhabitants of said city, and to provide for the inspection of meat markets, grocery stores, drug stores, confectioneries, fruit stands, ice cream factories, laundries, bottling plants, hotels, restaurants, and bakeries; the source, storage and distribution of water and other places where food or drinks for human consumption are manufactured, handled, sold or exposed for sale, and to regulate and inspect the character and standard of such articles of food and drink so sold or offered for sale.

To provide for the inspection and regulation of the sanitary condition of all premises and vacant lots within the city limits; for the removal of garbage, night soil, refuse, and unsanitary vegetation; to provide for establishing a lien against the property for any expenses incurred by the city in enforcing this provision and further to provide for the making and enforcing of all proper and reasonable regulations for the health and sanitation of said city and its inhabitants.

To provide for a health department and the establishment of rules and regulations protecting the health of the city; the establishment of quarantine stations, pest-houses and hospital and to provide for the adoption of necessary quarantine laws to protect the inhabitants against contagious and infectious diseases.

To provide for a sanitary sewer system and for the maintenance thereof; to require property owners to make connection to such sewers with their premises and to provide for fixing a lien against any property owner's premises who fails or refuses to make sanitary sewer connections and to charge the cost against the said owner and make it a personal liability, and to fix penalties for failure to make sanitary sewer connections.

To require property owners, their agents and lessees to remove, within a reasonable time, ice, slush, snow, and other debris from sidewalks fronting on property owned, occupied or controlled by such owner, agent or lessee and to require such owners, agent or lessee to remove all low hanging limbs from trees adjacent to sidewalks in said city.

To prohibit the driving of herds of horses, mules, cattle, hogs, sheep, goats and all herds of domestic animals along or upon the streets, avenues or alleys of said city.

To establish and regulate, restrain and prohibit the running at large of horses, mules, cattle, sheep, swine, goats, geese, chickens, pigeons, ducks, and all other domesticated animals and fowls and to authorize the restraining, impounding and sale of the same for the cost of the proceedings and the penalty incurred, and to order their destruction when they cannot be sold and to impose penalties upon the owner thereof for the violation of any ordinances regulating or

prohibiting the same, and to tax, regulate, restrain and prohibit the running at large of dogs and to authorize their destruction and impose penalties on the owners or keepers thereof.

To prohibit the inhumane treatment of animals and provide punishment therefor.

To prohibit and restrain the flying of kites, firing fire arms, firecrackers, rolling of hoops and the use of velocipedes, bicycles or the use and practice of any amusement on the streets or sidewalks to the annoyance of the pedestrians or persons using such streets or sidewalks, and to restrain, regulate and prohibit the ringing of bells, or the blowing of horns, bugles and whistles, crying of goods and other noises, practices and performances, tending to the collection of persons in the streets or tending, unnecessarily, to interfere with the peace and quietude of the inhabitants of said city; and to suppress all unnecessary noises.

To license, tax and regulate or suppress and prevent hawkers, peddlers and pawnbrokers.

To license, tax and regulate the charges of fares made by any person, firm or corporation owning, operation or controlling any vehicle operated for the carriage of passengers or freight for hire, on the public streets of the city.

To regulate the operation of railway trains and street cars operated on, along or across the streets, avenues, or alleys of said city; to license and control the operation of automobiles, motorcycles, taxicabs, busses, cabs, and carriages, and all character of vehicles, using the public streets, and to regulate the use and occupancy of the streets by any such vehicles.

To provide for the regulation and control of plumbers and plumbing works and to secure efficiency in the same.

To provide for the inspection of weights, measures and meters and fix a standard of such weights, measures and meters and require conformity to such standards and provide penalties for failure to use or conform to same, and to provide for inspection fees.

To provide for the issuance of permits for erection of all buildings; for the inspection of the construction of all buildings in respect to proper wiring for electric lights and other electric appliances; piping for gas; flues and chimneys, plumbing and sewer connections, and to enforce proper regulations in regard thereto.

To provide for the establishment and maintaining of a public library.

To provide for the establishment and designation of fire limits; to prescribe the kind and character of fireproof buildings within said limits and for the condemnation of dangerous or dilapidated structures which are calculated to increase the fire hazard.

To enact and enforce all ordinances and resolutions, necessary to regulate the safety of all office buildings, hotels, apartment houses, rooming houses, hospitals, theaters, store buildings, and all public buildings.

To require the construction of fire escapes in connection with public buildings, and to determine the sufficiency and regulate the safety of all exits and fire escapes provided on public buildings of every kind and character.

To provide for the establishment of districts and limits within said city, wherein saloons for the sale of spiritous, vinous and malt liquors may be located and maintained, and to prohibit the sale of such liquors or the location of such saloons without such defined districts or limits and to regulate and control theaters moving picture shows, vaudeville shows, dance halls, ten-pen alleys, pool-halls, and other public amusements, whenever the preservation of order, tranquillity, public safety or good morals demand it.

To restrain and punish vagrants, mendicants, beggars and prostitutes, to regulate, control or prohibit the sale, gift or barter or exchange cocaine, opium, morphine and the salts thereof.

To prohibit and punish keepers and inmates of bawdy, assignation and disorderly houses, and to punish such keepers, inmates and owners or agents of such owners of such houses, knowingly permitting such houses to be occupied as such bawdy, assignation or disorderly houses and to determine such inmates and keepers as vagrants.

To provide for establishment and maintaining the Fire Department of the City.

To require waterworks corporation, gas companies, street car companies, telephone companies, electric light and power companies, or other individuals, exercising franchises, now or hereafter, from the city, to make and furnish extensions of their service to such territory as may be required by ordinance.

To establish and maintain the City Police Department, prescribe the qualifications and duties of policemen and regulate their conduct.

To provide for the enforcement of all ordinances enacted by it, by a fine not to exceed two hundred (\$200) dollars, provided that no ordinance shall provide a greater or less penalty than is prescribed for a like offense by the laws of the state.

To provide for the commutation of fines imposed, by labor in a work house, on the public streets and public ways of the city; and for the collection of any fine imposed, execution may be enforced, as execution issued in civil cases.

To provide for a court for trial of misdemeanor offenses, know as the "Corporation Court" with such powers and duties as are defined and prescribed in an act of the Legislature of the State of Texas and any Acts amendatory thereof entitled: "An Act to Establish and Create in Each of the Cities, Towns and Villages of this State a Court to be known as the Corporation Court, in each City, Town or Village, and to Prescribe the Jurisdiction and Organization thereof, and to abolish Municipal Courts," said Act being title 22, Chapter 5, Articles 903 to 922; inclusive of the Revised Statues of the State of Texas.

To appoint as soon as practicable after the adoption of this Charter, some suitable person for the position of judge or recorder of the Corporation Court, who shall discharge the duties of said office under the terms and provisions of the state law creating said court, and subject to the provisions of the Charter.

To establish, maintain and regulate the city prison, workhouses and other means of punishment for vagrants, city convicts and disorderly persons, and such hospitals, orphanages and charitable institutions as may be deemed expedient by the governing authority.

SECTION 23. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM: Any proposed ordinance may be submitted to the commission for adoption, and any ordinance or resolution passed by the commission may be submitted to the people for repeal. In either event the ordinance or resolution proposed to be adopted or repealed shall be set out in a written or printed instrument which shall be filed with the person exercising duties of city clerk and at the time of the filing of such written or printed instrument, there shall be filed a statement signed by not less than five (5) qualified voters of the City of Ranger, stating that they have proposed such ordinance or resolution for adoption or repeal, and such electors shall be regarded as the initiating or referring committee, as the case may be, for the purpose herein after provided.

Before any such ordinance or resolution may be submitted to the Commission for adoption or repeal, it shall be necessary that a petition signed by not less than twenty-five (25) per cent of the qualified voters within the City of Ranger, as determined by the number voting at the last regular municipal election shall be presented to the Commission, referring to such ordinance or resolution and requesting its adoption or repeal, as the case may be. All such petitions circulated for signatures shall be uniform in character and shall have attached to the same exact writing or printed copy of the proposed ordinance or resolution sought to be adopted or repealed.

Each signer of a petition shall sign his name in ink or indelible pencil, in his own handwriting, and shall place on the same following his name, his place of residence by street number. The signatures to any such petition need not all be attached to the same paper, but to each such paper there shall be attached an affidavit, by the circulator thereof, stating the number of signers to such part of the petition, and that each signature is genuine and that of the person whose name it purports to be and that it was made in the presence of one affiant.

When signatures have been obtained in the number above provided for, and the petition and statement have been filed with the person exercising the duties of city clerk, such officer shall submit all papers pertaining to such ordinance or resolution and proposed initiation or reference to the Commission at its next regular meeting and such officers shall mail to each of the members of such initiating or referring committee a notice of the time of next meeting of the Commission when such ordinance or resolution and its adoption or repeal shall be considered, or a time then set by such Commission for its consideration which hearing and consideration shall be open to the public and the public shall be permitted to present arguments for or against such proposed ordinance or resolution.

After such presentation of the petition and public hearing, the commission shall, within thirty (30) days from the date of the submission of such petition, take final action upon the same, by either adopting or rejecting the ordinance thus initiated by petition, or by either repealing or refusing to repeal the ordinance or resolution thus sought to be referred, and in either event, the action of the Commission shall be noted in its minutes.

If the Commission refuses to pass or to repeal the proposed ordinance or resolution or passes the same in an amended form from that presented in the petition, or repeals only a part of such ordinance or resolution, instead of repealing the same in the manner set out in such petition of reference, then in either event, such initiating committee, or such referring committee, may require that such ordinance or resolution, either in its original or amended form, be submitted to a vote of the electors for adoption or repeal, as the case may be.

When an ordinance or resolution proposed by petition is to be submitted to a vote of the electors for adoption or repeal after the Commission has acted upon the same, as provided for in the preceding paragraph, then such initiating or referring Committee as the case may be, upon a majority vote of such committee, shall certify their desire to have the same submitted for adoption or rejection, within twenty (20) days after the omission shall take action on the same, and shall file such certificate and statement with the person exercising the duties of the city clerk.

After receipt of such certificate and the certified copy of the proposed ordinance or resolution, the person exercising the duties of the City Clerk shall present such certificate and certified copy of the proposed ordinance or resolution to the Commission at its next regular meeting. If an election is to be held at a date not more than ninety (90) days nor less than ten (10) days after such meeting of the Commission, then such ordinance or resolution, proposed for adoption or repeal shall be submitted by the Commission to a vote of the electors at such election to be held, but if no such election is to be held within such time, then the Commission shall provide for submitting such proposed ordinance or resolution, for adoption or rejection, to the electors at a special election to be held not less than twenty (20) days nor more than forty (40) days thereafter.

The form of ballot for use in an election held for adoption of any initiated ordinance shall state the title of the ordinance and contain a succinct statement of its nature and purpose and below such statement, on separate lines, there shall be printed the words: **FOR THE ORDINANCE—AGAINST THE ORDINANCE**. If a majority of the electors voting in such election shall vote in favor thereof, it shall thereupon become an ordinance of the city.

The form of ballot for use in an election held for the repeal of any referred ordinance or resolution, and contain succinct statement of the nature and purpose of the ordinance or resolution sought to be repealed, and below such statement, in separate lines, there shall be printed the words: **FOR THE REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE (OR RESOLUTION), AGAINST THE REPEAL OF THE ORDINANCE (OR RESOLUTION)**. If a majority of the electors voting in such election shall vote in favor of the repeal of such ordinance ore resolution, then the same shall be considered repealed. Providing, however, that nothing

contained in this section shall affect the manner of calling elections to determine whether or not franchises shall be granted.

SECTION 24. RECALL. Any elective officer of the city, shall be subject to recall and removal from office by the qualified electors of the city, and the procedure to effect such removal shall be as follows:

A petition demanding the question of removing such officer or officers to be submitted to the electors, shall be filed with the person discharging the duties of city clerk. Such petition for the recall of any such elective officer or officers shall be signed by at least thirty (30) per cent of the qualified voters, to be determined by the number of votes cast in the last regular municipal election; at least one-fifth (1/5) of whom shall certify that at the election at which the officer or officers was or were elected, they voted for the election of such officer or officers proposed to be recalled.

Petitions for signatures for such recall shall be procured only from a person exercising the duties of city clerk, who shall keep a sufficient number of such blank petitions on file for distribution, and prior to the issuance of such petitions for signatures there shall be filed with such person an affidavit by one or more qualified electors, stating the name or names of the officer or officers sought to be removed. Such officer issuing such petitions for removal to an elector shall enter in a record to be kept, the name of the elector to whom issued, the date of such issuance and the number of such petitions issued, and shall certify on such petitions for signatures, the name of the elector to whom issued and the date of issuance. No petition for signatures shall be accepted and take into consideration in determining the necessary percentage of voters for removal unless it bears such certificate and be filed as herein provided.

Each signer of a recall petition shall sign his name thereto in ink or indelible pencil, and shall write thereon, after his name, his place of residence by street number. To each of said petitions there shall be attached an affidavit of the circulator thereof, stating the number of signers to such part of the petition and that each signature to the same is genuine, was made in his presence and is that of the person whose name it purports to be.

All papers comprising a recall petition, shall be returned and filed with the person exercising the duties of city clerk, within thirty (30) days after the filing of the affidavit herein before provided for. The person exercising the duties of the city clerk, upon the return of such petition, shall at once submit the same to the governing authorities shall at once submit the same to the governing authorities of the city, and shall notify the officer or officers sought to be recalled of such action. If the official whose removal is sought does not resign within five (5) days after such notice is given, the governing authority of the city shall thereupon order and fix a day for holding a recall election, the date of which election shall not be less than fifteen (15) days nor more than thirty (30) days from the time such petition was presented to the governing authority of the city.

The ballot at such recall election shall conform to the following requirements, with respect to

each person whose removal is sought, the question shall be submitted. “Shall (name of person) be removed from the office (naming the office) by recall?” Immediately following each of such questions there shall be printed on the ballots, in separate lines, in the order here set out the words: For the recall of (naming the person), Against the recall of (naming the person), should a majority of the votes cast at such recall election be for the recall of the officer named on the ballot, he shall, regardless of any technical defects in the recall petition, be deemed removed from office, but should a majority of the votes cast at such recall election be against the recall of the officer named on the ballot, such officer shall continue in office for the remainder of his term, subject to recall as before.

No recall petition shall be filed against any officer of the city within six (6) months after his election, nor within six (6) months after an election for such officers recall.

In case the governing authority of the city shall fail or refuse to receive the recall petition, order such recall election, or discharge any other duties with reference to such recall, then the County Judge of Eastland County, Texas, shall discharge any such duties herein provided to be discharged by the governing authorities of said city.

If in such recall election, there shall, as a result of such election, remain one or more of such elective officers, who is not recalled, then such officer or officers not recalled shall discharge all of the duties incumbent upon the governing authority of said city until the vacancy or vacancies created at such recall elections are filled by an election for that purpose, as hereinafter provided for, but if in any proposed recall election it is proposed and submitted to recall all effective officers, then there shall be placed on said ballot under the question of recall, the names of candidates to fill the vacancies proposed to be created by such election, but the names of such officers proposed to be recalled shall not appear on the ballot as candidates.

If at any recall election it is not proposed and submitted to recall all of the elective officers, but only one or more, fewer than all, and such election shall result in favor to the recall of one or more of such officers, proposed to be recalled, then it shall be the duty of such officers or officer not recalled and constituting the governing authority of the city, within five (5) days after such election is held, to meet, canvass the returns, declare the results of the election and on the same day order an election to fill such vacancy or vacancies; which election shall be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than twenty (20) days after the same have been ordered.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. TAXATION: The city shall have the power and is hereby authorized, annually, to levy and collect taxed, not exceeding two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) on each one hundred dollars (\$100.00) of assessed valuation of all real and personal property within the city limits, not exempt from taxation by the Constitution and laws of the state.

Said city shall have the right annually, to levy and collect a poll tax not exceeding one dollar

(\$1.00) for each year, upon all male inhabitants between the ages of twenty-one (21) and sixty (60) years, not exempt from poll tax by the general laws of the state.

Shall authorize the granting and issuance of license and shall direct the manner of issuing and registering the same and fix the fees therefor; but no license shall be issued for a longer period than one (1) year and shall not be assignable except by permission of the governing authority of the city.

Shall have the power, annually, to levy and collect a franchise tax against any public corporation using and occupying the public streets or grounds of the city, separately from the tangible property of such corporation, and to levy and collect, annually, upon the shares or property or corporations, companies, and corporate institutions, as the same are now or may be assessed by the state laws, and shall have full power to enforce the collection of such taxes.

Shall have the power to regulate the manner and mode of making out tax lists, inventories and appraisements of property therein, and to prescribe the oath that shall be administered to each person rendering property for taxation and to prescribe how, when and where property shall be rendered and to prescribe the number and form of assessment rolls and to adopt such measures as may be deemed advisable to secure the assessment of all property within the city limits and to collect taxes thereon, and may provide a fine upon all persons failing, neglecting or refusing to render their property for taxation, and to do any and all other things necessary or proper to render effectual the collection of monies by taxation.

Shall have the power to provide for the rendition of unrendered property for taxation and levy and assess taxes thereon, annually, and to provide for the rendition, levy and assessment of taxes for previous years on property omitted from taxation, and to provide interest at the rate of six (6) per cent per annum upon such unrendered or omitted property and to charge and provide for correction and reassessment of property erroneously assessed.

All real, personal or mixed property held, owned or situated in the City of Ranger shall be liable for all municipal taxes, due by the owner thereof, including taxes on real estate, franchises personal and mixed property, poll taxes and all other municipal taxes of whatever character. Such municipal taxes are hereby declared to be a lien charge and encumbrance upon the property so taxed and shall be a prior lien to all other claims, sales, assignments, grants, transfers, gifts, and judicial writs. Said lien shall exist until all such taxes have been paid and against any real estate which, for any cause, has failed to be assessed for one or more years, and such lien shall be good and effective for every year for which assessment has failed.

Personal property of all persons, firms or corporations owning any taxes to the City of Ranger, is hereby made liable for all of such taxes, whether the same be upon personal or real property or upon both. The governing authority of the city at its first meeting in June of each year, or as soon thereafter as practicable shall levy the annual tax for such year, but several taxes or assessments allowed by this charter may be levied, assessed and collected at such time as the

governing authority may provide; provided, that should the governing authority fail or neglect to levy the annual tax herein provided for any one year the annual tax levy for the preceding year last made by said governing authority shall and will be considered in force and effective as tax levy for the year for which no annual tax levy was made.

Said city shall have full power to provide, for the prompt collection, by suit or otherwise, of taxes assessed, levied and imposed, and is hereby authorized, and to that end shall have full powers and authority to sell, or cause to be sold all kinds of property, real and personal, and shall make such rules and regulations and enact all such ordinances as are deemed necessary for the collection of any taxes provided in this Charter.

It shall not be necessary in any action, suit or proceeding in which the city shall be a party, for any bond, undertaking or security to be executed in behalf of the city.

The city shall have power to control and manage the finances of the city; to provide its fiscal year and fiscal arrangements.

All monies arising from the collection of taxes by the city shall be divided into two funds, and designated as a "General Fund" and an "Interest and Sinking Fund."

No irregularities in the time or manner of making or returning the city assessment rolls or the approval of such rolls, shall invalidate any assessment.

The governing authority of the city shall create a Board of Equalization, whose duties shall be to equalize the values of all property rendered for taxation in the City of Ranger; prescribe the qualifications, compensations and number necessary to constitute said board, and enact all ordinances necessary to regulate and control the equalization of values by such board.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1. BONDS: The governing authority of the city have the power to appropriate so much of the general revenues of the city as may be necessary for the purpose of retiring and discharging the accrued indebtedness of the city, and for the purpose of improving the streets, constructing sewers, erecting and maintaining public buildings of every kind and for purchasing or constructing waterworks plants and systems and for the purpose of erecting, maintaining, and operating an electric light and power plant and such other public utilities as the governing authority may, from time to time, deem expedient, and in furtherance of any and of all these subjects, the city shall have the right and power to borrow money upon the credit of the city and to issue coupon bonds of the city therefor, in such sum or sums as may be deemed expedient; to bear interest not to exceed six (6) per cent per annum; payable annually or semiannually at such place or places, as may be designated by the city ordinance; provide, that the aggregate amount of said bonds shall at no time exceed the limit authorized by statute upon the whole taxable value of the City of Ranger as ascertained by the tax records.

All bonds shall specify for what purpose they are issued, and shall be invalid if sold for less than

their par value and when any bonds are issued by the city, a fund shall be provided to pay the interest and create a sinking fund to redeem said bonds, which fund shall not be diverted or drawn upon for any other purpose and the person acting as city treasurer shall honor no drafts upon said fund except to pay interest upon or redeem the bonds for which it was provided.

Said bonds shall be issued for a period of time not to exceed forty (40) years: shall be signed by the Mayor, countersigned by the person acting in the capacity of city secretary, and shall be payable at such places and times as may be fixed by the ordinance of the governing authority. All such bonds shall be submitted to the Attorney General of the State for his approval and the Comptroller for resignation, as provided by state law; provided that any such bonds, after approval may be issued by the city either optional or serial, or otherwise, as may be deemed advisable by the governing authority.

Before the issuance of any bonds the same shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified property tax paying voters of the city, and should a majority of the votes cast at such election be in favor of issuing the bonds, the same shall be issued as provided herein, but should said election fail to carry, bonds shall not be issued. The election provided for above shall be conducted as other elections under the state law, after due notice by publication, once each week for three (3) consecutive weeks prior thereto, in one or more newspapers published in Ranger, which said notice shall state the nature and purpose of said election.

SECTION 2. No bonds shall be issued unless they shall have been authorized at an election held for the purpose except funding and refunding bonds which shall not require an election except as otherwise herein provided. The City Commission shall have the authority to pass all necessary ordinances to provide for the funding or refunding of the whole or any part of the existing debt of the City, or of any future debt by canceling the evidences thereof and issuing to the holders bonds or treasury warrants with or without coupons, bearing interest at an annual rate not to exceed six (6%) per cent per annum, provided, however, that the outstanding bonds of the City may always be refunded into bonds, but the outstanding warrant and note indebtedness of the City may be refunded into bonds only to the extent of the notes and warrants outstanding at the time this Charter Amendment is adopted and said note and warrant indebtedness outstanding at any time in the future incurred for the purpose of permanent street improvements may be refunded into bonds, but no other future note and warrant indebtedness shall be refunded into bonds except when refunding bonds are authorized at an election held for that purpose.

Added at an election held November 20, 1926.

SECTION 3. The City Commission shall have the power, when in its discretion it deems expedient and necessary, and at any regular meeting, to pass an ordinance or ordinances authorizing the issuance of interest-bearing time warrants, with or without interest coupons, not to exceed in amount \$25,000.00 at any one time, for the purposes for which bonds are authorized to be issued under this Charter, such warrants to bear interest not to exceed six per cent per annum, payable annually or semi-annually, and to mature at such times, and to be payable at such places, as may be fixed by the City Commission, but before any such warrants shall be issued or sold, they shall be submitted to and be approved by the Attorney General of this state and

registered in the office of the Comptroller of the State of Texas. At the time any such warrants are ordered to be issued, the City Commission shall levy a sufficient tax to provide for the payment of the necessary annual interest on and to create a sinking fund for, such warrants so authorized to be issued. They shall be signed by the Mayor, countersigned by the City Secretary, shall state the purpose for which they are issued, the place where payable, and shall bear the seal of the corporation. Added at an election held November 20, 1926.

ARTICLE V

SECTION 1. MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT: The municipal government of the City of Ranger shall consist of the City Commission, which shall be composed of five (5) Commissioners, one of whom shall be Mayor of the City.

SECTION 2. TERM OF OFFICE: The Mayor and four (4) Commissioners shall be elected to two-year terms. The Mayor, Commissioner No. 1 and Commissioner No. 3 shall be elected in odd numbered years. Commissioner No. 2 and Commissioner No. 4 shall be elected in even numbered years. At the general election in May 2015, the Mayor, Commissioner No. 1 and Commissioner No. 3 shall be placed on the ballot for election for a term of two (2) years and Commissioner No. 2 and Commissioner No. 4 shall be placed on the ballot for election for a term of one (1) year. At the general election in May 2016, Commissioner No. 2 and Commissioner No. 4 shall be placed on the ballot for election for a term of two (2) years. All positions shall be elected to two-year terms after the foregoing provisions have been effected. As amended at an election held November 4, 2014.

SECTION 3. VACANCIES: Vacancies shall be filled by resolution of appointment duly entered and adopted by the City Commission in regular session. The resolution to specify that the appointment be for the remainder of the unexpired term, and that the appointee possess all the qualifications for Mayor and Commissioners contained in Section 4 of Article V. Should a vacancy occur in the office of Mayor, the then Mayor Pro Tempore shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term as Mayor and the Commissioner's place vacated by the Mayor Pro Tempore to be filled as provided hereinabove. As amended at an election held on November 28, 1961.

SECTION 4. QUALIFICATIONS: The Mayor and each Commissioner shall be resident electors in the City of Ranger. All other officers and employees shall be actual bona fide residents of the city. The Mayor and Commissioners shall not preside over, vote in or discuss before the governing body of the city at any meeting thereof, any contract, job work or serviced for the municipality or any sale to the city of any supplies, equipment, material, articles or property of any kind sold or offered for sale to the city and in which he is directly or indirectly interested, but shall fully secure himself in all matters pertaining thereto.

No other officer or employee of the city shall be in any way interested in the profits or emoluments of any contract, job, work or service rendered or to be rendered to the city, or in any sale to the city of any character of supplies, equipment materials, property or articles purchased by or offered for sale to the city.

No officer or employee shall hold any office of emolument other than that of Notary Public, in Federal State or County government.

Any officer or employee of the city who shall cease to possess any of the qualifications herein required shall forthwith forfeit his office and any such contract in which any officer or employee is or may become interested may be declared void by the Commission. No officer or employee of the city (except policemen and firemen in uniform, or wearing badge) shall accept any frank, free ticket, passes or service, or anything of value, directly or indirectly from any person, firm or corporation, upon terms more favorable than are granted to the public. Any violation of this section shall be a misdemeanor, and on conviction for such violation, such office or employment shall be forfeited.

SECTION 5. ELECTIONS: The elective officers of the city shall consist of a Mayor and four Commissioners (the Commissioners to be designated as Commissioner No. 1 and Commissioner No. 2 and Commissioner No. 3 and Commissioner No. 4) each of whom shall be elected to the office for which he is a candidate by a majority of the qualified voters of the city at large. Should any candidate fail to receive a majority of votes at the regular election for the office for which he is a candidate, the Commission shall immediately order a special election to be held not less than ten (10) days nor more than twenty (20) days after the results of the regular election has been declared at which special election the names of only the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes at the regular election, for the office for which they were candidate, shall be printed on the ballot and submitted to the qualified voters for election and the candidate receiving the majority of votes at such special election, for the place or office for which he was a candidate shall be declared duly elected.

SECTION 6. JUDGE OF ELECTION: The Commission shall be the judge of the election and qualification of its members.

SECTION 7. ELECTIVE RETURN: The Commission shall, on the next regular meeting day of said commission, after each regular and special election, canvass the returns and declare the result of such election.

SECTION 8. ELECTION DAY: Municipal elections of the City of Ranger shall be held on the first Saturday in May or the date nearest thereto as required by law. As amended at an election held November 4, 2014.

SECTION 9. ELECTIONS, LAWS CONTROLLING: All elections provided for in this Charter, except the regular election held on the first Tuesday of April A.D. 1919, and on said day every two years thereafter, shall be called special elections, and all elections shall be conducted and results canvassed and announced by the election authorities prescribed by the General Election Laws of the State of Texas, and said General Election Laws shall control in all municipal elections, except as otherwise herein provided.

SECTION 10. COMMISSION CONSTITUTED LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNING BODY OF CITY: The Commission shall enact all ordinances and resolutions, and adopt all regulations, and constitute the governing body of the city, with all powers and authority herein granted.

SECTION 11. DUTIES OF MAYOR: The Mayor of the City shall be the presiding officer of the Commission except that in his absence or disability to act, a Mayor pro tempore may be chosen; he shall be entitled to vote as a member of the Commission; sign all bonds; be the official head of the city, and exercise all powers and perform all duties imposed upon him by this Charter and by the ordinances of the city.

SECTION 12. MEETING OF THE COMMISSION: On the first Monday at ten o'clock a.m. after the election of the Commission has been declared, the Commission shall meet in the Council Chamber of the City Hall, at which time the Commissioners shall qualify and assume the duties of their offices. Thereafter the Commissioners shall meet at such time as may be prescribed by ordinance or resolution, but they shall meet at least once each week. The Mayor or the City Manager, hereinafter provided for, may call special meetings of the Commission at any time deemed advisable. All meetings of the Commission shall be public, except such executive sessions as may be provided for by ordinance, and any citizen shall have access to the minutes and records thereof at all reasonable times. The Commission shall determine its own rules and order of business, and shall keep a journal of its proceedings.

SECTION 13. COMPENSATION AND ATTENDANCE: The compensation of the Mayor and each Commissioner shall be Ten (\$10.00) Dollars per diem, for attendance upon each regular meeting of the Commission, but not more than one regular meeting shall be held each week; provided, however, that no compensation be allowed the Mayor or either Commissioner if absent from any regular meeting of the Commission, unless such absence be unavoidable, the reasons therefor be presented in writing, and the same be considered sufficient by the other members of the Commission and such reasons and excuse spread upon the minutes of the proceedings.

SECTION 14. LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE: A majority of all members elected on the Commission shall constitute a quorum to do business, and the affirmative vote of a majority shall be necessary to adopt any ordinance or resolution. The vote upon the passage of all ordinances and resolutions shall be taken by "Yea" and "Nay" and entered upon the Journal. Every ordinance or resolution passed by the Commission shall be signed by the Mayor and the person acting as city clerk or secretary within two days, and by him ordered.

SECTION 15. ORDINANCE ENACTMENT: Each proposed ordinance or resolution shall be introduced in written or printed form, shall not contain more than one subject, which shall be clearly stated in the title, but general appropriation ordinances may contain the various subjects and accounts for which monies are to be appropriated. No ordinance, unless it be declared an emergency measure, and passed by a unanimous vote of the Commission shall be passed on the day on which it shall be introduced.

SECTION 16. EMERGENCY MEASURES: DEFINED AND PROVIDED FOR: An emergency measure is an ordinance or resolution for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health or safety, or providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department, in which the emergency is set forth and defined in a preamble thereto. Ordinances appropriating money, not exceeding two hundred fifty (\$250.00) dollars and ordinances for the payment of salaries and wages, may be passed as emergency measures, but no measure making a grant, renewal or extension of a franchise, or other special privilege or regulate the rate to be charged for its services by any public utility, shall, ever be passed as an emergency measure.

SECTION 17. ORDINANCES: PUBLICATION OF: All ordinances other than emergency measures, shall be published once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks, in some newspaper published in the City of Ranger, and no ordinance shall become effective until ten (10) days after the date of its last publication.

SECTION 18. ORDINANCES: RECORDING: Every ordinance, or resolution, upon its becoming effective, shall be recorded in a book kept for that purpose and shall be authenticated by the signature of the Mayor and party exercising the duties of city clerk or secretary.

SECTION 19. INVESTIGATION BY COMMISSION: The Commission may investigate the financial transaction of any office or department of the city government and the acts and conduct of any official or employee. In conducting such investigation, the Commission may compel the attendance of witnesses, the production of books and papers, and other evidence, and for that purpose may issue subpoenas or attachments which shall be signed by the Mayor; which may be served and executed by any officer authorized by law to serve subpoenas or other process, or any peace officer of the city. If witness shall refuse to appear or to testify to any facts within his knowledge, or to produce any papers or books in his possession, or under his control, relating to the matter under investigation before the Commission, the Commission shall have the power to cause the witness to be punished as for contempt, not exceeding a fine of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars and three days in the city prison. No witness shall be excused from testifying, touching his knowledge of the matter under investigation in any such inquiry, but such testimony shall not be used against him in any criminal prosecution except for perjury committed upon such inquiry.

SECTION 20. CITY MANAGER: The City Commission may appoint a City Manager, who shall be the administrative head of the municipal government, and shall be responsible for the efficient administration of all departments; he shall be a resident of the City of Ranger when appointed, and shall hold his office two (2) years unless sooner removed from same. He shall be removable from office by the Commission after a public hearing before the full Commission for good cause shown upon charges duly filed for incompetence, habitual neglect of duty, or misfeasance or malfeasance in office. If the City Commission shall fail or refuse to appoint a City Manager, or should there, for any reason, be a vacancy in the office of City Manager, the Mayor of said city shall discharge all of the duties imposed by the terms of this Charter upon the City Manager until such vacancy be filled, or until such time as the City Commission may, in its

discretion, appoint a City Manager. As amended at an election held on May 23, 1921.

SECTION 21. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE CITY MANAGER: The City Manager shall see that the laws and ordinances of the city are enforced;

Appoint all appointive officers or employees of the city, with the advice and consent of the Commission (such appointments to be upon the merit and fitness alone), and remove all officers and employees appointed by him:

Attend all meetings of the Commission, with a right to take part in the discussion, but having no vote;

Recommend in writing, to the Commission such measures as he may deem necessary or expedient;

Keep the Commission fully advised as to the financial condition and needs of the city, and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by this Charter, or be required of him by ordinance or resolution of the Commission.

SECTION 22. CONTRACTS FOR SERVICES: No contract shall ever be made which binds the city to pay for personal services to be rendered for any stated period of time, but all appointive officers and employees shall be subject to peremptory discharge as herein provided, other than the City Manager.

SECTION 23. DEPARTMENTS: The Commission shall create and consolidate such offices and may divide the administration of the City's affairs into such offices or departments at their discretion. As amended at an election held on May 23, 1921.

SECTION 24. BOARD OF CITY DEVELOPMENT: The Commission shall have the authority to appoint what shall be know and designated as a "Board of City Development," which shall be composed of not exceeding fifteen (15) members who shall serve without compensation, and may prescribe the qualifications and duties of such board and their term of office, and may appropriate not exceeding two mills on the one dollar valuation of taxable property in the City of Ranger from the general fund of said city, to support the works of the board.

SECTION 25. SALARIES: GENERAL: The Commission shall fix and determine the salaries and wages of all appointive officers and employees of the city, and provide for the payment thereof.

SECTION 26. PAYMENT OF CLAIMS: No warrant for the payment of any claims shall be issued by the city, unless such claim shall be evidenced by an itemized account approved by the City Manager and audited and allowed by the Commission at a regular meeting, and all warrants shall be signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the city clerk or secretary.

SECTION 27. ACCOUNTING PROCEDURE: Accounting procedure shall be devised and maintained for the city adequate to record in detail, all transactions affecting the acquisition, custodianship and disposition of values including cash receipts, credit transactions and disbursements; and the recorded facts shall be presented periodically to officials and to the public in such summaries and analytical schedules in detail support thereof as shall be necessary to show the full effect of such transactions for each fiscal year, upon the finances of the city government, including distinct summaries and schedules for each public utility owned and operated.

SECTION 28. AUDIT AND EXAMINATION: The Commission shall cause a continuous audit of the books of accounts; all records and transactions of the administration of the affairs of the city: such audit shall be made annually during each fiscal year and shall be made by a certified public accountant. The duty of the certified public accountant shall include the certification of all statements required in Section 27 of this Charter; such statements shall include a general balance sheet showing summaries of income and expenditures and also comparisons, in proper classification with the last previous audit; such summaries shall be published in some newspaper published in Ranger, one time within ten (10) days after the completion of such audit.

SECTION 29. CONTRACTS: All contracts for public printing, public improvements, and public works of every kind and character, and the purchase of supplies for use in any department of the city, exceeding an expenditure of one hundred (\$100.00) dollars shall be let on sealed competitive bids.

SECTION 30. NEPOTISM: No person related within the second degree by affinity, or within the third degree by consanguinity, to the Mayor, to either of the Commissioner or the City Manager, shall be appointed to any office, position, clerkship or service of the city.

SECTION 31. HOURS OF LABOR UPON PUBLIC WORKS: Eight (8) hours shall constitute a day's work for all laborers, workmen, or mechanics who may be employed by or on behalf of the city, in any one calendar day, where such employment, contract or work is for the purpose of construction, repairing or improving buildings, bridges, streets, avenues, alleys, highways or public improvements of a similar character, requiring the services of laborers, workmen or mechanics.

SECTION 32. OFFICIAL BONDS: The City Manager shall give an official bond in the sum of five thousand (\$5,000.00) dollars and the person or persons exercising the duties of City Treasurer and City Tax Collector shall give official bonds in such sums as may be prescribed by the Commission from time to time, such bonds shall be payable to the City of Ranger, and shall in each instance, be conditioned for the faithful discharge of duties of such respective officers, and for the faithful accounting for all monies, credits and things of value coming into the hands of such respective officers. Such bonds shall be procured from some regularly accredited surety company, authorized to do business under the laws of the State of

Texas, and the premiums to such surety companies shall be paid by the City of Ranger.

The City Manager shall have the right to require official bonds from other appointive officers of the city in such amounts and condition as he may deem best for the efficiency of the public service. All official bonds shall be approved by the Commission and filed and recorded with the person exercising the duties of city clerk.

SECTION 33. OATH OF OFFICE: Every officer of the city shall, before entering upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe to the oath prescribed by the Constitution of the State of Texas for County Officials.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 1. The enumeration of powers made in this Charter shall never be construed to preclude by implication or otherwise, the city from exercising the powers incident to the enjoyment of local self government, nor to do any and all things not inhibited by the Constitution and laws of the State of Texas.

SECTION 2. RATIFICATION OF ORDINANCES: All ordinances and resolutions in force at the time of the taking effect of this Charter, not inconsistent with its provisions, shall continue in force until amended or repealed.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENTS TO CHARTER: This Charter, after its adoption, may be amended in accordance with the provisions of an Act of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Texas, entitled, "An Act Authorizing Cities Having More Than 5,000 Inhabitants, by a Majority Vote of the Qualified Voters of Said City, at an Election Held for that Purpose, to Adopt and Amend their Charter, Etc.". Approved April 7th, 1913, and any Acts Amendatory thereto.

SECTION 4. VOTE OF THE PROPOSED CHARTER, MANNER, ETC.,: This Charter shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the City of Ranger for adoption or rejection, on the Third of April, A.D., 1919, at which election if a majority of the qualified voters voting in such election shall vote in favor of the adoption of this Charter, then it shall become the Charter of the City of Ranger until amended or repealed. It being impracticable to submit this Charter by section, it is hereby prescribed that the form of ballot for use in such election shall be as follows, to-wit: