

**TOWN OF POETRY, TEXAS
ORDINANCE NO. 2025-03-01**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF POETRY, TEXAS, ESTABLISHING AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH STATE LAW, REQUIRING MUNICIPAL OFFICERS TO TAKE AN OATH OF OFFICE UPON ASSUMING THE DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICE, CALCULATED TO SECURE THE FAITHFUL PERFORMANCE OF THE OFFICER'S DUTIES; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND, PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Article XVI, Section 1, of the Texas Constitution requires that all elected and appointed public officials, before they enter upon the duties of their offices, shall take an oath of office prior to the assumption of the duties and responsibilities of office, and that the oath is a means for the public official to make his/her public commitment to faithfully and lawfully perform the duties, responsibilities and obligations associated with the municipal office; and

WHEREAS, Section 22.005 of the Texas Local Government Code provides that the governing body of a municipality by ordinance may require a municipal officer to take any additional oath that the governing body considers best calculated to secure the faithful performance of the officer's duties; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Poetry, Texas, finds and determines that municipal officers of the Town who are otherwise required to take an oath of office shall take an oath of office as required by law, supplemented by an additional oath to uphold the ordinances of the Town, which the Town Council finds and determines is best calculated to secure the faithful performance of the officer's duties, as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF POETRY, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the Town Council of the Town of Poetry, Texas, finds and determines that the premises hereof are true and correct.

SECTION 2. That from and after the effective date of this Ordinance, all municipal officers of the Town of Poetry who are required to take an oath of office upon the assumption of official duties, in addition to any and all other oaths as may be required by law, shall take the following oath:

I, _____, do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the duties of the office of _____, of the State of Texas, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States and of this State, and the laws and ordinances of the Town of Poetry, Texas, so help me God.

SECTION 3. That should any sentence, paragraph, subdivision, clause, phrase or section of this ordinance be adjudged or held to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of this ordinance as a whole, or any part or provision hereof other than the part so decided to be invalid, illegal or unconstitutional, and shall not affect the validity of the Code of Ordinances as a whole.

SECTION 4. That this ordinance shall take effect immediately from and after its passage and the publication of the caption, as the law in such cases provides.

DULY PASSED AND APPROVED by the Town Council of the Town of Poetry, Texas, on this the 20th day of March, 2025.

APPROVED:

Sara Benkevec
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Theresa Schlander
TOWN SECRETARY - Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

[Signature]
TOWN ATTORNEY

