

**RESOLUTION NO. R-2022-58**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS, REGARDING A MATTER PENDING BEFORE THE BASTROP BOARD OF ETHICS, AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN STATED TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR A MEDIATED DISPUTE SETTLEMENT ADDRESSING THE CONDUCT OF JAMES ROBERT CROUCH**

**WHEREAS,** on March 22, 2022, the City Council of the City of Bastrop approved Resolution No. R-2022-30A directing the Mayor of Bastrop to file an ethics Complaint with the Bastrop Board of Ethics; and

**WHEREAS,** on March 25, 2022, Mayor Connie Schroeder filed an ethics Complaint on behalf of the City Council; and

**WHEREAS,** on April 11, 2022, the panel of the Board of Ethics conducted a Preliminary Assessment and determined that the allegations listed in the complaint were *Actionable*; and

**WHEREAS,** on May 16, 2022, the full Board of Ethics met and expressed a desire to explore options for a mediated settlement that would make conducting a public hearing unnecessary; and

**WHEREAS,** Section 1.15.017(d) of the Bastrop Code of Ethics allows for alternative dispute resolution of Complaints at the discretion of the Board of Ethics.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BASTROP, TEXAS:**

**SECTION 1.** The City Council finds that all of the recitals contained in this Resolution are true and adopts them as findings of fact by this governing body.

**SECTION 2.** Should the Board of Ethics find it reasonable and appropriate to approve some form of mediated settlement to resolve this matter without the necessity of a public hearing, the City Council hereby states its support for a mutually agreed upon compromise that involves the Accused, James Robert Crouch:

- A. admitting to one instance of the *Representation of Others*, which is a violation of Section 1.15.009(d) of the Bastrop Code of Ethics; and
- B. taking verifiable steps to refrain from committing such infractions in the future; and
- C. accepting a *Letter of Notification* from the Board of Ethics.

**SECTION 3.** If the Board of Ethics in its discretion resolves the pending Complaint (dated March 25, 2022) through a negotiated compromise consistent with the terms and conditions listed above, the City Council is willing to forgo further consideration of all allegations stated in the Complaint and shall consider the matter *closed*.

**SECTION 4.** The City Council authorizes the Mayor to execute any documentation regarding a mediated settlement and/or speak on the subject of a compromised settlement on behalf of the City Council.

**SECTION 5.** The meeting at which this Resolution was passed was open to the public, and that public notice of the time, place and purpose of said meeting was given as required by the Texas Open Meetings Act.


**SECTION 6.** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage, and it is so resolved.

**DULY RESOLVED & ADOPTED** by the City Council of the City of Bastrop on this, the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 2022.

**APPROVED:**

  
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Connie B. Schroeder, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Ann Franklin, City Secretary

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

  
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Alan Bojorquez, City Attorney