

ORDINANCE NO. _____

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, MINNESOTA REPLACING
SECTIONS 8.01, 8.02, and 8.03 OF THE CITY CHARTER PERTAINING
TO THE ORGANIZATION AND STRUCTURE OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS, the Charter Commission of the City of Austin has recommended by unanimous vote the Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin described herein by Ordinance as provided in Minnesota Statutes § 410.12, subd. 7, and

WHEREAS, said the City Council has held a public hearing on the recommended Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin described herein as required by said statute; and

WHEREAS, the Council has considered the recommended Amendment to the City Charter of the City of Austin and has determined by unanimous vote that said Amendment serves the interests of the citizens of Austin; and

THE COUNCIL now does ordain:

Sections 8.01, 8.02, and 8.03 of the City Charter for the City of Austin, Minnesota are repealed in their entirety and replaced with the following:

Section 8.01. Establishment and Maintenance of Police Department.

The city council shall have the power to create, keep and maintain a police department; purchase or lease equipment; erect and maintain buildings and other structures; acquire land by purchase, lease, donation or condemnation for that purpose; adopt ordinances, resolutions and regulations for the prevention and control of crimes and for preservation and keeping of the peace; employ such personnel that may be needed and provide for the compensation and regulation of such personnel; contract to provide emergency police services to other municipalities, townships, or governmental subdivisions; and shall have the power to do any and all things necessary to operate a police department within the City of Austin.

In time of public danger or emergency, the Mayor will coordinate the City's response with the City Administrator, Police Chief, Fire Chief, and other City leaders, and said coordination may include requesting assistance from local, state, and federal agencies.

Section 8.02 POWERS OF POLICE OFFICERS.

All police officers of the city shall be sworn officers, having the power of arrest according to state statutes and with the responsibilities for the protection of life and property, the preservation of the public peace and order, the prevention and

detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders, the regulation and control of traffic, and the enforcement of the laws of the state and the ordinances of the city.

Passed by a vote of yeas and nays this _____ day of _____, 2025.

YEAS

NAYS

APPROVED:

Stephen M. King, Mayor

ATTEST:

Tom Dankert, City Recorder

This ordinance was introduced on October ____, 2025; approved on _____, 2025; was published in the Austin Daily Herald on _____, 2025, and becomes effective _____, 2025.