

HOME RULE CHARTER ELECTION



VOTE
May 4
7 am-7pm
Brookshire
Convention Center

Home rule cities began over 100 years ago in Texas. The state gives cities with at least 5,000 residents the right to self-govern. To self-govern, the voters must approve "home rule." Brookshire started that process with a planning meeting in 2016.

Your Questions Answered

What is a home rule charter? It is a form of self governance. Brookshire operates under general law. That means the city follows state law. It does not have local control over its governance. Most cities in Texas operate under home rule or general law.

When did this process start? This process began in 2016 when Brookshire met the criteria for a home rule city. In 2018, the City Council adopted the procedure to become a home rule city unanimously.

Why do I need to vote to let the city have home rule? Only an election can shift the power from the state control to the city self-government.

Will the Mayor position go away? No. The Mayor position remains an important pillar in home rule. The Mayor continues to control the City Council meetings. The Mayor continues to have an active part in leading the city.

How would the city operate under home rule? The city would have a Council-Manager form of government. This form has existed for over 100 years. It requires a **City Council, a Mayor and a City Manager**. The City Manager receives direction from council and follows it.

Do we have a City Manager? Brookshire has a City Administrator. This position operates like a City Manager. The position would change names under home rule, but the job remains the same.

What else happens under home rule? The City Council members would serve longer terms. Under home rule, they would serve 3 years instead of 2. Elections would be on a rolling basis so the entire City Council is not up for re-election at one time.

