

## **APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL JUDGE, CLERK, AND DEPUTY CLERK OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT**

### **MUNICIPAL JUDGE:**

Pursuant to Section 29.004(b) of the Texas Local Government Code in a general law city, such as Petersburg, the Mayor is the ex officio judge of the municipal court unless the municipality by ordinance authorizes the election or appointment and qualifications of a municipal judge.

The office of court recorder (municipal judge) was first created by the City of Petersburg by the adoption of Ordinance # 125 D.W. on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1963. Then on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1981 the City of Petersburg confirmed that action by adoption of Ordinance # 185F. The appointment of the first municipal judge was for a term running concurrently with the unexpired term of the Mayor of the City of Petersburg.

Thereafter the municipal judge is appointed by the City Council for a term of two (2) years and the term of municipal judge runs concurrently with the term of the Mayor. If the judge is not reappointed by the 91<sup>st</sup> day following the expiration of a term of office then, absent any action by the City Council in appointing a new judge, the existing judge continues to serve for another term of office.

The qualifications for municipal judge are set forth in Ordinance # 185F and are that the person be at least 21 years of age and the person must be a resident of the City of Petersburg. Ordinance 125D.W. also required a one year residency in the City of Petersburg.

On November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 the City Council adopted Ordinance # 287G which changed the qualifications to that of being a person who is 18 years of age and is also a resident of the state of Texas.

The compensation of the municipal judge is set by the City Council and is currently set at \$4,000.00 per year.

### **CLERK AND DEPUTY CLERK OF THE MUNICIPAL COURT:**

Pursuant to Ordinance # 185F the City Secretary is the ex-officio clerk of the municipal court. Pursuant to Section 29.010(a) of the Texas Local Government