

*Proclamation  
of the City of Jonestown, Texas*

*International Dark Sky Week*

**Whereas**, the aesthetic beauty and wonder of a natural night sky is a shared heritage of all humankind; and

**Whereas**, the experience of standing beneath a starry night sky inspires feelings of wonder and awe, and encourages a growing interest in science and nature, especially among young people and out-of-area-visitors within our local community; and

**Whereas**, light pollution has scientifically established economic and environmental consequences, which result in significant impacts to the ecology and human health of all communities; and

**Whereas**, 80-percent of the world's population, including many people in Texas, live under a dome of light pollution, excessive artificial lighting at night that disrupts natural darkness. Many never experience the visual wonder or ecological and health benefits of living under a dark night sky; and

**Whereas**, light pollution represents a waste of natural resources amounting to roughly \$3 billion per year of wasted energy in the United States and contributes to diminished energy security; and

**Whereas**, the City of Jonestown has been designated as an International Dark Sky Community, this requires community dedication, compliance, and adherence to lighting ordinances, outreach programs for all residents, educational experiences, and ongoing programs to maintain this designation in perpetuity; and

**Whereas**, hill country communities are increasingly dedicated to preserving our night sky as evidenced by those that have already received this designation and many others that are currently in process; and

**Whereas**, light pollution, wasted light that performs no function or task and artificial light that is not managed or properly directed, is steadily increasing in our area due to an influx of people into the Texas Hill Country region; and

**Whereas**, correctly and actively addressing light pollution will help preserve our natural, dark skies for future generations, increase safety, reduce energy waste, protect, and preserve our wildlife, especially the annual migration of hundreds of avian species, as well as benefit human health; and

**Whereas**, DarkSky International is the globally recognized authority on light pollution and has created International Dark Sky Week to raise awareness of light pollution, and provide free education resources, and solutions to the public to encourage the protection and enjoyment of night skies and responsible outdoor lighting.

**Whereas**, the efforts of DarkSky International to preserve and celebrate our night skies are worthy of a week-long celebration;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the City of Jonestown, TX, here by declare April 21 - 27, 2025 as;

**INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK  
In the City of Jonestown, Texas**

- We ask each resident to join me, not only in observing and pondering upon this important week, but also in raising awareness and support for protecting and preserving our precious night skies resources.
- That the City Secretary is hereby instructed to post this Proclamation for Public display and enter this document into the permanent records of the City of Jonestown.



In witness whereof I have here unto set  
my hand and caused this seal to be affixed

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul Johnson, Mayor

Attest:  Date: April 10, 2025  
Sandra Barton, City Secretary