



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#25-0757

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Rickelle Williams, City Manager

DATE: August 19, 2025

TITLE: Resolution Ratifying a Cemetery Fee Waiver and Refund of \$9,506.84 for
the Burial of Chaplain Father Ronald G. Perkins – **(Commission Districts
1, 2, 3 and 4)**

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the City Commission adopt a resolution ratifying the waiver of cemetery interment fees and refund the previously paid amount of \$9,506.84, for the burial of Chaplain Father Ronald G. Perkins.

Background

On Sunday, June 22, 2025, Chaplain Father Ronald G. Perkins passed away while traveling with his family. Memorial services were held on Thursday, July 10 and Friday, July 11, 2025, at the Sanctuary Church in the City of Fort Lauderdale. Chaplain Perkins was buried on Friday, July 11, 2025, at Lauderdale Memorial Park, in the City of Fort Lauderdale.

Affectionately known as “Father Ron,” he was a cherished spiritual leader and source of unwavering support to the South Florida public safety community. Chaplain Perkins served the Fort Lauderdale Police Department since 2009, the Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Department since 2012, and other municipalities and agencies throughout Broward County. Chaplain Perkins was a dedicated public servant who prioritized the mental and spiritual wellbeing of our public safety personnel during difficult times and challenging situations.

Chaplain Perkins was a resident of the City of Fort Lauderdale and a veteran of the U.S. Navy. As such, the interment fees of \$9,506.84 reflect a City of Fort Lauderdale resident discount and burial in the Veteran’s Garden section of Lauderdale Memorial Park.

On July 3, 2025, cemetery interment fees in the amount of \$9,506.84 were fully paid by the Perkins family. However, in recognition of Chaplain Perkins’s dedicated service and significant contributions to City of Fort Lauderdale and other local first responders, City staff, at the direction of the City Manager, waived the cemetery interment fees and provided a refund of the fees paid. It is recommended that the City Commission ratify the

cemetery fee waiver and the associated refund.

Resource Impact

Revenue related to this action will be deducted from the FY 2025 operating budget in the accounts listed below.

<i>Funds available as of July 21, 2025</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	ACCOUNT/ ACTIVITY NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AMOUNT RECEIVED (Character)	AMOUNT
10-430-6090-539-343-801	Cemetery System Administration	Charges for Service/ Plot Sales – At Need	\$1,150,000	\$438,460	-\$5,692.00
10-430-6090-539-343-804	Cemetery System Administration	Charges for Service/ Cemetery Merchandise – At Need	\$2,650,000	\$1,246,865	-\$3,650.00
10-430-6090-539-343-805	Cemetery System Administration	Charges for Service/ Cemetery System – Misc Services	\$125,000	\$61,6565	-\$125.00
10-430-220-000-430450008	Cemetery System Administration	Charges for Service/ Florida Documentary Stamp	\$0	\$0	-\$39.84
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					-\$9,506.84

Strategic Connections

This item is a FY 2025 Commission Priority, advancing the Public Spaces and Community Initiatives.

This item supports the 2029 Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area, Goal 5: Build a beautiful and welcoming community.

This item advances the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Here

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Place specifically advancing:

- The Public Places Focus Area
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces Area
- Goal 2: Be a community with high quality parks and recreational facilities that highlight the character of our city.

Attachment

Exhibit 1 – Resolution

Prepared by: Carolyn Bean, Assistant to the Director, Parks and Recreation

Department Director: Carl Williams, Parks and Recreation