

ORDINANCE NO. C-20-44

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. C-18-46 OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, TO PROVIDE THAT THE MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONERS ELECTED IN REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS SHALL TAKE OFFICE ON THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING DAY IN DECEMBER FOLLOWING THEIR ELECTION, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Ordinance C-18-46 provides for the mayor and city commissioners elected in a regular municipal election to take office on the first Tuesday that is a regular meeting day in January following the election; and

WHEREAS, Subsection 101.75(3), Florida Statutes (2020), provides, in part, that “[t]he term of office for any elected municipal official shall commence as provided by the relevant municipal charter or ordinance”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. That Section 1 of Ordinance C-18-46 is amended to provide as follows:

That Section 3.02 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.02. - Creation, composition and term of commission.

There is hereby created a city commission composed of one (1) mayor-commissioner and four (4) city commissioners all of whom shall be elected in the manner provided in this charter, shall take office on the first ~~Tuesday that is a regular meeting day in January~~ December following their election, and who, beginning in the year 2021 ~~2020~~, shall hold office for a term of ~~three~~ four (34) years, or until their successors are elected and qualified. The term of the mayor and four (4) city commissioners that commenced in the year 2018 shall last until such time as their successors are elected and qualified as a result of the 2020 election. No person who has been elected to the office of mayor-commissioner or to the office of city commissioner for three (3)

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consecutive terms shall be qualified for nomination or election to that office for the succeeding term. This limitation shall apply to terms which commence after the regular election of March 7, 2000. The mayor-commissioner and the four (4) city commissioners are sometimes referred to herein as commissioners or the city commission.

SECTION 2. That Section 2 of Ordinance C-18-46 is amended to provide as follows:

That Section 3.09 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.09. - Organization meeting.

On the first ~~Tuesday that is a regular meeting day in January/December~~ following each regular election the existing city commission shall meet at the usual place for holding the meetings of the legislative body of the city, for the purpose of transacting any and all necessary business before assumption of office by the newly elected commissioners. At 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time the newly elected city commissioners shall assume the duties of office.

SECTION 3. That Section 6 of Ordinance C-18-46 is amended to provide as follows:

That Section 7.07 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 7.07. - General election; regular municipal election.

Beginning in the year with 1988/2020, and every ~~third~~fourth year thereafter, a regular municipal election shall be held on the ~~second~~first Tuesday after the first Monday in March/November for the purpose of electing a mayor-commissioner and four (4) city commissioners. However, should only one (1) candidate qualify for the office of mayor-commissioner or city commissioner, then, and in that event, no regular election for that office shall be held and the city clerk shall certify such fact to the city commission and the city commission shall declare such person(s) to be elected to the office of mayor-commissioner or city commissioner.

Qualified electors shall vote for not more than one (1) candidate for the office of mayor-commissioner.

Qualified electors residing within a commission district shall vote for not more than one (1) candidate for the office of city commissioner from that district and shall not be entitled to vote for candidates for city commission from any other commission district.

The nominee receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to the office for which he was a candidate.

The mayor-commissioner and the city commissioners elected at such election shall serve for terms of ~~three~~four (34) years each beginning on the ~~third~~first Tuesday that is a regular meeting day in ~~March~~January~~December~~ following their election and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.

SECTION 4. That if any clause, section or other part of this Ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon final passage.

PASSED FIRST READING this the 17th day of November, 2020.

PASSED SECOND READING this the _____ day of _____, 2020.

ATTEST:

Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

City Clerk
JEFFREY A. MODARELLI

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