

ORDINANCE NO. C-26-

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, CONDITIONED ON THE APPROVAL OF VARIOUS BALLOT MEASURES, BY UPDATING THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF MAYOR AND CITY COMMISSIONER, PROVIDING FOR THE ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE AT THE FIRST REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF AN ELECTION, PROVIDING FOR THE DESIGNATION OF A VICE-MAYOR AT THE CITY COMMISSION'S FIRST MEETING AFTER ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS ASSUME OFFICE FOLLOWING A REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTION AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, SPECIFYING THE PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDATES TO SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION TO THE CITY CLERK FOR REVIEW, REMOVING THE CITY COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY TO RECEIVE AFFIDAVITS AND MAKE A FINDING AS TO WHETHER A CANDIDATE VIOLATED THE CHARTER OR IS UNQUALIFIED, PROVIDING FOR SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION TO BE CALLED UPON AT LEAST SEVENTY-TWO HOURS' NOTICE, EXCEPT THAT IN THE EVENT OF AN EMERGENCY, WHERE THERE IS THE POTENTIAL FOR IMMINENT HARM OR THE ABILITY TO LESSEN OR AVERT A CATASTROPHE, A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COMMISSION MAY BE CALLED UPON SUCH NOTICE AS IS PRACTICABLE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, PRESCRIBING A METHOD FOR RESOLVING A TIE IN NOMINATIONS TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD NOMINATING COMMITTEE, MODIFYING THE COMPOSITION OF THE ELECTION BOARD THAT CERTIFIES THE RESULTS OF ELECTIONS FOR THE CLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES' RECOMMENDATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD, REMOVING THE CIVIL SERVICE BOARD'S DUTY TO REVIEW, CONSIDER, AND ADVISE THE CITY MANAGER CONCERNING JOB CLASS SPECIFICATIONS, DELETING REFERENCES TO PRIMARY ELECTIONS, REMOVING THE REQUIREMENT OF TWO NEWSPAPER PUBLICATIONS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS AND OTHER TYPES OF NOTICE,

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AND DISTINGUISHING AN INTERIM CITY MANAGER IN THE EVENT OF THE CITY MANAGER'S RESIGNATION OR TERMINATION FROM AN ACTING CITY MANAGER DURING TEMPORARY ABSENCES OF THE CITY MANAGER, AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEAL OF CONFLICTING ORDINANCE PROVISIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Charter Revision Board has recommended to the City Commission that certain amendments be made to the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission proposes certain amendments to the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to be submitted for voter approval;

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

SECTION 1. That Section 3.03 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.03. - Qualification of members; ~~forfeiture of office.~~

~~To be eligible to hold the office of mayor of the City of Fort Lauderdale, or to qualify for nomination or election as such, the candidate shall have resided in the City of Fort Lauderdale for six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the election, shall continuously reside in the City of Fort Lauderdale, and shall be a resident of the State of Florida and a citizen of the United States of America; shall be duly qualified to vote at city, state and national elections; shall be over the age of twenty-one (21) years; shall be otherwise qualified as in this charter provided; shall hold no other public elective office; and shall not be an officer, employee or serving any capacity with the city government, except that a city commissioner serving may qualify for election to the office of mayor. Candidates for nomination or election as mayor shall comply with all the rules and regulations set out in the charter as to their conduct. Any candidate for mayor or any mayor who shall cease to possess the qualifications required herein shall forthwith forfeit his or her office.~~

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~~To be eligible to hold the office of city commissioner of the City of Fort Lauderdale, or to qualify for nomination or election as such, the candidate shall have resided in the City of Fort Lauderdale for six (6) months immediately preceding the date of the election, and shall reside in the commission district from which he or she seeks election on the day he or she qualifies as a candidate for that office, shall continuously reside in that district and shall be a resident of the State of Florida, and a citizen of the United States of America; shall be duly qualified to vote at city, state and national elections; shall be over the age of twenty-one (21) years; and shall be otherwise qualified as in this charter provided; shall hold no other public elective office; and shall not be an officer, employee or serving in any capacity with the city government, except that a city commissioner serving may qualify for reelection. Candidates for nomination or election for the office of city commissioner shall comply with all the rules and regulations set out in the charter as to their conduct. Any candidate for city commission or any city commissioner who shall cease to possess the qualifications required herein shall forthwith forfeit his or her office or candidacy.~~

- (a) To be eligible to hold the office of mayor, a candidate shall:
- (1) have resided continuously in the City as a permanent resident for at least twelve months immediately preceding the date of qualification for such office;
 - (2) be a citizen of the United States of America;
 - (3) be an elector of the City at the time of qualification for such office;
 - (4) hold no other public elective office;
 - (5) not be an officer, employee, or serving in any capacity in the government of the City at the time of filing a candidate oath in accordance with section 7.14 of this charter, except that a city commissioner may qualify for election to the office of mayor, and the mayor may qualify for reelection subject to section 3.02 of this charter;
 - (6) reside continuously as a permanent resident of the City during the term of office; and

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- (7) be otherwise qualified for such office as provided in this charter.
- (b) To be eligible to hold the office of city commissioner a candidate shall:
- (1) have resided continuously as a permanent resident of the city commission district for which such candidate seeks office for at least twelve months immediately preceding the date of qualification for such office, except that in any year in which there has been a reestablishment of city commission districts (a "Reestablishment"), candidate for the office of city commissioner whose permanent residence in the City is in a different city commission district as a result of the Reestablishment may seek office as a city commissioner in the city commission district of his or her permanent residence that results from the Reestablishment;
- (2) be a citizen of the United States of America;
- (3) be an elector of the City at the time of qualification for such office;
- (4) hold no other public elective office;
- (5) not be an officer, employee, or serving in any capacity in the government of the City at the time of filing a candidate oath in accordance with section 7.14 of this charter, except that a city commissioner serving may qualify for reelection subject to section 3.02 of this charter;
- (6) reside continuously as a permanent resident of the district to which such commissioner is elected during the term of office; and
- (7) be otherwise qualified for such office as provided in this charter.
- (c) Candidates for election as mayor or city commissioner shall comply with all the rules and regulations set forth in the charter as to their conduct. Any candidate for mayor or city commissioner, or any mayor or city commissioner who shall cease to possess the qualifications required herein shall forthwith forfeit his or her office or candidacy.
- (d) For purposes of this section, continuous residence as a permanent resident for at least twelve months immediately preceding the date of qualification for office must be established by providing a copy of at least five of the following to the city clerk:

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- (1) Florida driver license or identification number showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (2) Florida vehicle registration showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (3) Florida voter registration card showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (4) Certified copy of a recorded declaration of domicile and residency showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (5) Address listed on the last Internal Revenue Service tax return, showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (6) Bank statement and checking account mailing address showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (7) Proof of payment of utilities at a home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (8) Property Appraiser's record showing ownership of homestead property within the city or district, as applicable;
- (9) An item of mail with a postmark directed to a person's home address within the city or district, as applicable;
- (10) A residential lease showing a home address within the city or district, as applicable.

SECTION 2. That Section 3.04 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.04. - Judge of elections and qualifications of members.

All candidates for the office of mayor or commissioner shall submit to the city clerk, for a ministerial review, documentation necessary to demonstrate compliance with this charter and applicable law. The city commission shall be the judge of the qualifications of its members, referendums and all municipal elections and referendums and of the qualifications of its members, subject to review by the courts. ~~At the time that the city commission meets to canvass the results of any election, any registered~~

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~~elector of City of Fort Lauderdale shall be entitled to file with the city commission an affidavit setting out the facts showing that a candidate has violated the provisions of this charter as to the manner of his or her election, or is otherwise unqualified to hold office, and the city commission shall take proof at such meeting and declare the results.~~

SECTION 3. That Section 3.05 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.05. Designation of vice-mayor.

- (a) At its first meeting after all commissioners elected in a municipal election assume office, and annually thereafter until the next municipal election, ~~the regular triennial election of 1988,~~ the city commission shall, by resolution, designate a district commissioner as vice-mayor. ~~The vice-mayor selected in 1988 shall serve until the first city commission meeting to be held in April 1989 and at that meeting and at the first meeting in April for every year thereafter the city commission shall by resolution designate a district commissioner as vice-mayor.~~ Should a commissioner decline or be otherwise disqualified from serving in the office of vice-mayor, then and in that event, another district commissioner shall be designated by resolution to serve in such office.
- (b) The vice-mayor shall preside at any meeting of the city commission from which the mayor is absent and shall perform those functions and duties set forth in section 4.04 hereof. Should the mayor resign from office or be otherwise unable to continue to serve as mayor, the vice-mayor shall serve as mayor until the vacancy in the office of mayor shall be filled as provided herein.

SECTION 4. That Section 3.09 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

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Sec. 3.09. Organizational meeting.

~~On the first regular meeting day in December following each regular election the existing date of the first regular city commission meeting 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~~ after the certification of election results by the Broward County Canvassing Board, all newly elected commissioners officials whose election has been certified shall take an oath of office and assume the duties of office. ~~At 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time the newly elected city commissioners shall assume the duties of office.~~

SECTION 5. That Section 3.10 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby repealed as follows:

~~Sec. 3.10. -- Special meeting to seat a new member.~~

~~On the first Tuesday following the election of a new member, elected at other than a quadrennial regular election, the commission shall meet to receive such new member.~~

SECTION 6. That Section 3.12 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 3.12. - Special meetings—How called.

The mayor or the city manager, may call special meetings of the city commission upon at least ~~six (6) hours' written or e-mail notice~~ seventy-two hours' notice prior to any special meeting, except that in the event of an emergency as determined by the mayor or the city manager, in consultation with the city attorney, a special meeting of the city commission may be called upon such notice prior to a special meeting for an emergency as is practicable under the circumstances. ~~to each member, the city manager, city auditor, city clerk, and city attorney, served personally, transmitted by e-mail, or left at his or her usual place of residence.~~ The call notice shall state the general purpose of the meeting. For purposes of this section, an emergency is any occasion or instance in which there is the potential for imminent harm to the public's health, safety, or property, or where the city

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~~has the ability to lessen or avert the threat of catastrophe. The regularity or validity of any proceedings, taken at any special meeting at which a majority of members of the city commission and city clerk is present, or where written waiver of call and consent in writing is filed, shall not be questioned on account of any omission or irregularity in calling such special meeting.~~

SECTION 7. That Section 4.06 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

~~Sec. 4.06. - Acting city manager upon resignation of or during absence or disability of~~ Designation of interim or acting city manager.

Upon the resignation of ~~or during the absence or disability of~~ the city manager, the city commission may by resolution designate ~~some a~~ properly qualified person, ~~either classified or exempt service,~~ to temporarily ~~execute~~ exercise the functions powers and duties of his or her office the city manager. The person thus designated shall be known as the ~~have the same~~ powers and duties as the city manager, and shall be known while service as "interim city manager."

During the absence of the city manager, the city manager may designate a deputy city manager, assistant city manager, or department director to temporarily exercise the powers and duties of the city manager. The person thus designated shall be known as "acting city manager."

SECTION 8. That Section 4.08 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 4.08. - Removal or discharge.

The city manager may be removed or discharged by resolution of the city commission at any time. In such resolution the commission shall designate an ~~acting interim~~ city manager to serve in the place of the removed city manager, and the removed city manager shall vacate the office upon adoption of the resolution. Within five (5) days after the adoption of resolution removing or discharging him or her, such removed city manager shall have the right to have served upon him or her written statement of specific reasons for his or her discharge, if he or she so desires, by filing a

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demand for same with the city clerk, and leaving sufficient copies with the city clerk for service upon members of the city commission. Such written statement of specific reasons, signed by a majority of the city commission shall be delivered to such removed officer within five (5) days after service of such demand as aforesaid, and a definite time and date fixed in such written statement for a public hearing before the commission within not less than five (5) days and not more than ten (10) days after the service of such written statement. At the time and place specified the city commission shall convene as a body at a special meeting for the purpose of conducting a public hearing upon such charges. The removed city manager shall have the right to appear at such hearing to answer and rebut such charges or reasons, and he or she shall have the right to be represented by his or her own private counsel. At the conclusion of such hearing the commission shall adopt a resolution confirming such removal or reinstating such removed city manager. If reinstated he or she shall receive full pay for the period intervening between his or her removal and reinstatement.

An ~~acting~~interim city manager may be removed at any time by resolution of the city commission, and such removed person shall not be entitled to a public hearing upon such removal.

SECTION 9. That Section 6.02 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 6.02. - Classified and nonclassified service.

All offices and positions of the city shall either be in the nonclassified service or in the classified service. The city manager and deputy city manager, city attorney and deputy city attorney, city clerk and city auditor shall be appointed by resolution of the city commission. Assistant city attorneys shall be appointed by the city attorney. Commission assistants shall be appointed by the City Commission. Assistant city clerks shall be appointed by the city clerk and assistant city auditors shall be appointed by the city auditor. All other nonclassified personnel shall be appointed by the city manager, who shall be empowered to execute employment contracts with such employees. The duration of such employment contracts shall not exceed two (2) years, and the pay provisions shall be in conformance with the salary range established in the city's pay ordinance. All positions in the classified

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service shall be filled in accordance with personnel rules and regulations; provided, however, that all positions in the classified service which, once filled, are subject to the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement shall be exempt from the applicability of such personnel rules and regulations. Positions in the nonclassified service shall be filled on the basis of relative ability, knowledge and skill. Such employees shall be entitled to fair and equitable compensation, with incentives and recognition for excellent performance. The nonclassified service shall include the following positions and levels:

- (a) The city manager and/or ~~acting~~ interim city manager.
- (b) Deputy city manager and deputy city attorney.
- (c) Assistant city managers.
- (d) Administrative assistants to the city manager.
- (e) The city attorney and assistant city attorneys.
- (f) All management category I positions.
- (g) City clerk and assistant city clerks.
- (h) Commission assistants.
- (i) City auditor and assistant city auditors.

Nonclassified personnel may not be assigned the duties of a vacant classified position except in accordance with personnel rules and regulations.

The classified service shall include all positions in the city's service, except those specifically placed in the nonclassified service. All persons in the classified service shall be subject to the civil service rules and regulations; provided, however, that regular employees in the classified service who are subject to a collective bargaining agreement shall not be subject to civil service rules and regulations.

SECTION 10. That Section 6.04 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

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Sec. 6.04. - Civil service board; created; composition.

- (a) *Purpose of board.* There shall be a civil service board, the members of which shall be residents and electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale, who shall be in sympathy with the application of merit principles in connection with public employment. No member of the board shall hold or be a candidate for any elective public office.
- (b) *Membership; appointment, etc.* The civil service board shall consist of three (3) members, one (1) of whom shall be recommended for appointment by the mayor, with approval of city commission; one (1) of whom shall be recommended for appointment by the city manager; and the third member shall be recommended for appointment by the regular employees of the City of Fort Lauderdale who are in the classified service as of May 31 of the year of the appointment. Each member shall be appointed by resolution for a full term of four (4) years, which resolution shall specify upon whose recommendation the member was appointed, and the expiration of his or her term of office. The present members of the board shall serve until the expiration of their terms of office or until their successors are appointed and qualified. If the office is vacated by death, resignation, removal or other effective cause prior to expiration of the term, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment by the city commission upon recommendation of the proper authority, for the balance of the unexpired term. All regular full terms shall be for a period of four (4) years from the expiration of the preceding term. Recommendations for appointment by the mayor and city manager shall be made to the city commission in writing at least twenty (20) days prior to expiration of the term of the member whose successor it is the duty of such officials, respectively, to recommend for appointment.

Recommendations for appointment by the employees shall be made in the following manner: At least forty (40) days before expiration of the term of the member to be filled upon recommendation of civil service employees, civil service employees shall be notified that for a period of seven (7) days sealed nominations will be received for members of a nominating committee representing the civil service employees. Any regular employee in the classified service shall have

the right to nominate any other regular employee in the classified service as a member of such nominating committee. At the expiration of seven (7) days from such notification, ~~a list of all eligible employees so nominated shall be printed and delivered to each employee in the classified service, with instructions to vote for five (5) of the employees so nominated within seven (7) days thereafter.~~ Upon tabulation of the results, the five (5) employees receiving the highest number of ~~votes~~ nominations shall become the nominating committee to nominate up to three (3) candidates for the office to be filled. In instances in which there is a tie in nominations for the nominating committee, the employee(s) with the highest level of overall City seniority shall serve on the nominating committee. For the purposes of this section, overall City seniority shall be defined as an employee's length of continuous service with the City. Upon vote of the regular employees in the classified service, the person receiving the highest number of votes, and otherwise qualified, shall be recommended to the city commission for appointment. The city manager's designee and two (2) ~~city commissioners appointed by the mayor~~ members of the nominating committee shall constitute the election board and shall certify the results to the city commission in writing.

No person shall be eligible to be a member of the civil service board who is an officer or employee of the city or who is serving the city upon an advisory board or in any other capacity (except as a member of the civil service board), nor shall the husband or wife of such a person or other relative (as defined by law) of such a person be eligible for membership.

If, because of lack of sufficient time, or other valid reason, except willful failure to so do, proper nominations are not made before the expiration of a term, the incumbent shall hold over until his or her successor is appointed and qualified, but the term of the new appointee shall run for the balance of the full four-year term only. If, for any reason the mayor, city manager or employees of the city should fail to make their respective recommendations for appointment within sixty (60) days after expiration of a term, the city commission shall appoint a qualified person to membership upon

said board, whose term shall run for the balance of the unexpired term only.

All members of the board shall file an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and of the State of Florida, and to faithfully perform the duties of the office. The members of the board shall elect one (1) of their members to serve as a chairman for a two-year term.

(c) *Duties of the board.* The board shall:

- (1) Hear appeals as outlined in section 6.04(d).
- (2) Review and consider additional personnel rules or amendments to existing rules that may be recommended for adoption, and approve or disapprove, by motion, these rules.
- ~~(3) Review and consider new class specifications or revisions and amendments to existing class specifications and advise the city manager, by motion, concerning these specifications.~~
- (43) Meet at such times and places as shall be required to conduct the business of the board as outlined in paragraphs (1), (2) and (3), above. Time and place of the meeting shall be specified by the call of the chairman of the board or by a majority of the board. All meetings shall be open to the public. Notice of each meeting shall be given in writing to each board member by the secretary of the board. Two (2) members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.
- (d) *Appeals to the board.* Regular employees subject to personnel rules and regulations who are suspended, dismissed or demoted, or who believe the personnel rules have been improperly applied or misinterpreted to their detriment, may appeal to the board within thirty (30) calendar days from the date such action is taken, or from the date an employee by use of reasonable diligence should have become aware of the action causing the appeal, and the board shall hear and take action upon such appeal. Upon such appeal, the appealing employee and the city management staff shall have the right to be heard publicly and to present evidence. At the hearing of such appeal, technical rules of evidence shall not apply. The board

shall make the final decision disposing of the appeal. If such final decision is in favor of the employee, the city manager shall reinstate the employee without loss of pay and benefits.

- (e) *Powers of the board.* The board, each member of the board, and the secretary to the board, who shall be designated by the city manager, shall have power to administer oaths, subpoena witnesses, and compel the production of books and papers pertinent to any investigation or hearing authorized by this charter. Any person who shall fail to appear in response to a subpoena or to answer any question or produce any books or papers pertinent to any such investigation or hearing or who shall knowingly give false testimony therein shall be guilty of an offense and punishable as provided in section 1-6 of the Code.

SECTION 11. That Section 7.16 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby amended to provide as follows:

Sec. 7.16. - Election; tie vote; ~~primary election to fill one vacancy.~~

At the each regular or special municipal election, the candidates for each office who ~~shall receive~~ the greatest number of votes for that office ~~at such regular or special municipal election,~~ shall be declared elected. A tie between two ~~(2)~~ candidates for the office of mayor or city commissioner shall be decided by lot to be conducted by the city attorney. ~~If in a municipal primary election a candidate shall receive a majority of valid votes cast for that office, such candidate shall be declared elected without the holding of a regular municipal election.~~

SECTION 12. That Section 10.03 of the Charter of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, be, and is hereby repealed as follows:

Sec. 10.03. - ~~Public hearings and public notice.~~*

~~Unless otherwise specified herein a notice of public hearing before the city commission, a notice for invitation for bids, a notice to materialmen, and other types of notice required to be published, shall be published once a week for two (2) consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the city, with the first publication at least twelve (12) days before date of such public~~

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~~hearing or time for filing bids, and second publication seven (7) days after the first publication. Provided, however, that the giving of notice in connection with the purchase of supplies, equipment and material needed in connection with the ordinary operation of the city, and not primarily used in connection with new public construction, shall be governed by the requirements pertaining to the department of purchases as provided in the "Code of Ordinances of City of Fort Lauderdale."~~

SECTION 13. That Sections 1, 3, 4, and 5 of this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 1

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELIGIBILITY TO HOLD OFFICE,
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING, AND DESIGNATION OF VICE-MAYOR

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended to update the qualifications for the offices of mayor and city commissioner, and provide that elected officials assume office at the first regular city commission meeting following certification of their election, and that a vice-mayor be designated at the city commission's first meeting after all elected officials assume office following a regular municipal election and annually thereafter, instead of at the first meeting in April?

YES, for approval

NO, for rejection

SECTION 14. That Section 2 of this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

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CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 2

SUBMISSION OF CANDIDATE DOCUMENTATION
AND REMOVAL OF CITY COMMISSION CONSIDERATION
OF ELECTOR CHALLENGES TO CANDIDATES

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended to specify the procedure for candidates for the office of mayor or commissioner to submit documentation to the City Clerk for review, and to remove the City Commission’s authority to receive affidavits alleging that a candidate for the office of mayor or commissioner has violated the charter or is unqualified and make a finding as to whether such candidate violated the Charter or is unqualified?

YES, for approval

NO, for rejection

SECTION 15. That Section 6 of this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 3

SPECIAL MEETINGS OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended so that special meetings of the City Commission may be called upon at least seventy-two hours’ notice, except that in the event of an emergency, where there is the potential for imminent harm or the ability to lessen or avert a catastrophe, a special meeting of the city commission may be called upon such notice as is practicable under the circumstances?

YES, for approval

NO, for rejection

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SECTION 16. That Section 10 of this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 4

CIVIL SERVICE BOARD

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended to prescribe a method for resolving a tie in nominations to the Civil Service Board Nominating Committee, modify the composition of the election board that certifies the results of elections for the classified employees' recommendation for appointment to the Civil Service Board, and remove the Civil Service Board's duty to review, consider, and advise the city manager concerning job class specifications?

YES, for approval

NO, for rejection

SECTION 17. That Sections 7, 8, 9, 11, and 12 of this Ordinance shall not take effect unless a corresponding ballot measure is approved by a majority of the electors of the City of Fort Lauderdale voting at the election to be held on November 3, 2026. The ballot measure to be submitted shall be in substantially the following form:

CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 5

DELETING PRIMARY ELECTION REFERENCES,
REMOVING PUBLICATION REQUIREMENT,
AND UPDATING INTERIM AND ACTING CITY MANAGER TITLES

Should the City of Fort Lauderdale Charter be amended to delete references to primary elections, remove the requirement of two newspaper publications for public hearings and other types of notice, and distinguish the title of interim city manager, who is appointed in the event of the city manager's resignation or termination, from that of acting city manager, who is appointed during temporary absences of the city manager?

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YES, for approval

NO, for rejection

SECTION 18. 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 19. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith, be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 20. That the provisions of this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect, as conditioned in Sections 13 through 17, ten days from the date of certification by the Supervisor of Elections for Broward County, Florida, of approval by the electors of the discrete ballot question.

PASSED FIRST READING this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

PASSED SECOND READING this the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Mayor
DEAN J. TRANTALIS

ATTEST:

City Clerk
DAVID R. SOLOMAN

CODING: Words, symbols, and letters ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words, symbols, and letters underlined are additions.