

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-30

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, DECLARING ITS INTENT TO PLACE ON THE MARCH 12, 2019 BALLOT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE ELECTORATE A REFERENDUM QUESTION OF WHETHER THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO GRANT, PURSUANT TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE VII, OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTIONS TO NEW BUSINESSES AND EXPANSIONS OF EXISTING BUSINESSES THAT ARE EXPECTED TO CREATE NEW, FULL-TIME JOBS IN THE CITY; PROVIDING A BALLOT TITLE AND SUMMARY OF THE PROPOSED REFERENDUM; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE OF THE REFERENDUM ELECTION; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 3, Article VII, of the Florida Constitution and Section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, the Board of Commissioners of the City of Tarpon Springs (the "Commission") is authorized to call a referendum within its jurisdiction to determine whether the Commission may grant economic development ad valorem (property) tax exemptions to qualifying new businesses and expansions of qualifying existing businesses; and

WHEREAS, granting such exemptions to qualifying businesses will provide the City of Tarpon Springs with an additional economic development incentive which will enhance the desirability of the City of Tarpon Springs as a location for new businesses and expansions of existing businesses; and

WHEREAS, in support of improving employment opportunities in the City of Tarpon Springs and ensuring continued economic growth and stability, the Commission desires to call a referendum to determine whether it should be authorized to grant such economic development ad valorem (property) tax exemptions to encourage economic development and establish new jobs, which action is in the best interest of the City of Tarpon Springs and serves both a city and a public purpose; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is adopted pursuant to Section 2. of the Charter of the City of Tarpon Springs, Section 196.1995, Florida Statutes, Chapter 166, Florida Statutes, and any other applicable provisions of law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF TARPON SPRINGS, FLORIDA, IN SESSION DULY AND REGULARLY ASSEMBLED, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the City of Tarpon Springs as the findings of the City and are incorporated herein.

Section 2. Referendum. A referendum is hereby called in City of Tarpon Springs to be held in conjunction with the election of March 12, 2019, to determine whether the Board of Commissioners should be authorized to grant economic development ad valorem (property) tax exemptions to new businesses and expansions of existing businesses, pursuant to Section 3, Article VII, of the Florida Constitution, to encourage economic development and establish new jobs.

Section 3. Ballot Title and Question. The ballot title and question for the referendum shall be in the following form:

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS
FOR NEW BUSINESSES AND EXPANSIONS
OF EXISTING BUSINESSES**

**Shall the Board of Commissioners of the City of Tarpon Springs,
Florida, be authorized to grant, pursuant to s. 3, Art. VII of the
State Constitution, property tax exemptions to new businesses
and expansions of existing businesses that are expected to
create new, full-time jobs in the City?**

_____ **Yes – For authority to grant exemptions**

_____ **No – Against authority to grant exemptions**

Section 4. Notice of Referendum. The Clerk shall publish notice of the referendum in accordance with Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, on the following dates: February 8 and February 22, 2019.

Section 5. Notice to the Department of State. Upon completion of the referendum election called for in this Resolution, the results of such election shall be certified in accordance with Chapter 100 and Chapter 102, Florida Statutes, to the Department of State.

Section 6. Guidelines, Policies and Procedures. In addition to being subject to voter referendum as provided for in this Resolution, in order to ensure that applications for economic development ad valorem (property) tax exemptions are considered in a non-arbitrary and non-discriminatory manner, the Board of Commissioners will not consider such an exemption for any particular new business or an expansion of any particular existing business unless the Board of Commissioners has enacted by ordinance guidelines, policies and/or procedures governing the Board of Commissioners' consideration of applications for such exemptions.

Section 7. Effective date. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED and ADOPTED this 4th day of December, 2018.

C. Alahouzos
CHRIS ALAHOUZOS, MAYOR

D. Bant
DAVID BANTHER, VICE MAYOR

Rea Sieber
REA SIEBER, COMMISSIONER

Susan Miccio Kikta
SUSAN MICCIO-KIKTA, COMMISSIONER

J. Karr
JACOB KARR, COMMISSIONER

MOTION BY: VICE MAYOR BANTHER
SECOND BY: COMMISSIONER KARR

VOTE ON MOTION

COMMISSIONER KARR	<u>Yes</u>
COMMISSIONER MICCIO-KIKTA	<u>Yes</u>
COMMISSIONER SIEBER	<u>Yes</u>
VICE MAYOR BANTHER	<u>Yes</u>
MAYOR ALAHOUZOS	<u>Yes</u>

ATTEST:

Irene S. Jacobs
IRENE S. JACOBS, CMC
CITY CLERK & COLLECTOR

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Thomas J. Trask
THOMAS J. TRASK
CITY ATTORNEY

