

1 Introduced by Council Members Carlucci, Freeman, Morgan, Dennis,
2 Hazouri, DeFoor, Wilson, Becton, Pittman, Bowman, Diamond, Ferraro,
3 Newby, White, Boylan, Salem, Priestly Jackson, Cumber & R. Gaffney:
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6 **RESOLUTION 2020-252-A**

7 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING COUNCIL
8 AUDITOR KYLE BILLY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
9 RETIREMENT AFTER 31 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING
10 SERVICE TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING
11 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
12

13 **WHEREAS**, Jacksonville native Kyle Billy earned his bachelor's
14 degree in accounting from Jacksonville University, earned his
15 master's degree in accounting from the University of North Florida,
16 and has been a Certified Public Accountant since 1990; and

17 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Billy was hired as an entry-level auditor in the
18 Council Auditor's Office in January 1989 by then-Council Auditor
19 Bob Johnson, the second Council Auditor appointed under the
20 consolidated form of government created in 1968. Mr. Johnson, for
21 whom the Robert O. Johnson Award was created to memorialize his
22 many decades of outstanding public service, was the consolidated
23 city's first Assistant Council Auditor in 1968, so Mr. Billy's
24 auditing roots go back through him to the foundation of the
25 consolidated government more than five decades ago; and

26 **WHEREAS**, Kyle Billy progressed steadily through the ranks of
27 the Auditor's Office from Auditor 1 through Principal Auditor,
28 managing audits and reviewing key legislation, particularly
29 regarding independent authorities, selecting and training many
30 staff members, coordinating a wide range of special projects and
31 producing quarterly summary reports. When promoted to Assistant

1 Council Auditor in 2014, he managed the office's City Council
2 support functions and became the face of the office, leading to a
3 smooth transition as Council Auditor three years later in 2017
4 when, following the retirement of Council Auditor Kirk Sherman, Mr.
5 Billy was appointed his successor and became the fifth Council
6 Auditor of the consolidated government; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Billy, whose wife Janice also had a long and
8 stellar career of her own in the Council Auditor's Office prior to
9 her retirement several years ago, is renowned for his incredible
10 work ethic, his attention to minute details, and his dogged
11 determination to see every task through to absolute perfect
12 completion. He is known among his co-workers as a demanding but
13 fair leader who treats everyone with the same degree of courtesy
14 and respect and expects that example to be the standard by which
15 his team interacts with clients, auditees, and others. His
16 encyclopedic knowledge of the city government gained through more
17 than three decades of audits of every branch of the government and
18 its independent authorities, of budget reviews in good years and
19 bad, of legislative support of the City Council and its committees,
20 and of special investigatory reports of hot topics over the years
21 are invaluable in his current role as the most trusted advisor to
22 the City Council collectively and to each of its members; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Kyle Billy has been deeply involved in researching
24 and reporting on some of the most important and high-profile issues
25 facing the city government over the past three decades, including,
26 among others, the county courthouse construction project, the
27 dredging of the St. Johns River, and most recently the potential
28 privatization of JEA. The work of Mr. Billy and his staff were
29 absolutely crucial in giving the City Council and the citizens of
30 Jacksonville a true understanding of the potential ramifications of
31 the sale of JEA and especially of the utility's Performance

1 Incentive Plan that could have yielded huge payouts to some
2 employees had the JEA been privatized; and

3 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Billy's retirement will allow him more time to
4 indulge his many non-work interests, including spending more time
5 with his children and grandchildren, exercising fanatically, and
6 traveling, especially to more of his beloved national parks; now
7 therefore

8 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Jacksonville:

9 **Section 1.** The City of Jacksonville hereby honors and
10 commends Council Auditor Kyle Billy on the occasion of his
11 retirement after three decades of outstanding service in the
12 Council Auditor's Office. The City Council expresses its utmost
13 gratitude to Mr. Billy for his knowledge, his dedication, his
14 friendship, and his unfailing wise counsel to the Council and its
15 members over the years, and we wish him the very best of health and
16 happiness in his retirement.

17 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
18 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
19 without the Mayor's signature.

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21 Form Approved:

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23 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

24 Office of General Counsel

25 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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