

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION  
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



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**Bill Type and Number:** Resolution 2024-899

**Introducer/Sponsor(s):** Council President at the request of the Mayor

**Date of Introduction:** November 12, 2024

**Committee(s) of Reference:** R

**Date of Analysis:** November 12, 2024

**Type of Action:** Appointment confirmation

**Bill Summary:** This bill confirms the Mayor's appointment of Dr. Thomas Geismar to the Public Service Grant Council, filling a seat formerly held by Amber J. Sahbudak, for a first full term to expire on December 31, 2026.

**Background Information:** The Public Service Grant Council is established pursuant to Chapter 80, *Ordinance Code*, and charged to review and assess the annual needs of the City for public services for a program not otherwise funded by City funds; recommend Priority Populations or Needs to the City Council; recommend the process by which recipients of Public Service Grants are selected each year; submit for review an appropriation request for Public Service Grants for the upcoming fiscal year; review, evaluate and score each Public Service Grant application; participate in on-site evaluations of recipient programs; attend orientation sessions the annual training course, ethics, public records and open meeting laws training; and award and allocate the annual lump sum appropriation for Public Service Grants contained in the annual budget ordinance.

Section 80.102(a), *Ordinance Code*, specifies that the Public Service Grant Council shall consist of 15 voting members, 8 of whom shall be appointed by the Mayor and confirmed by City Council.

Dr. Geismar holds a bachelor's degree from Hiram College and master's degree and Ph.D from Florida Atlantic University. He is an adjunct professor at Jacksonville University and worked previously as the Superintendent of Schools for the Exeter-West Greenwich Regional School District in Rhode Island. Dr. Geismar served as an original member of the Safety and Crime Reduction Commission from 2019-2024. He resides in Duval County in council district 3.

**Policy Impact Area:** Public Service Grant Council operations

**Fiscal Impact:** No direct cost to the City

**Analyst:** Hampsey