

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

8 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMENDING COUNCIL
9 AUDITOR KYLE BILLY ON THE OCCASION OF HIS
10 RETIREMENT AFTER 31 YEARS OF OUTSTANDING
11 SERVICE TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING
12 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
13

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 the sale of JEA and especially of the utility's Performance
2 Incentive Plan that could have yielded huge payouts to some
3 employees had the JEA been privatized; and

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

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

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

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

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22 Form Approved:

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24 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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