

1 Introduced by Council Member Carlucci:
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4 **RESOLUTION 2021-856**

5 A RESOLUTION HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE
6 AND LEGACY OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AND FORMER
7 MAYOR THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR.; PROVIDING
8 AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
9

10 **WHEREAS**, Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr., a Jacksonville native,
11 graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and earned his bachelor's
12 degree in history and government from Jacksonville University, where
13 he was elected Student Government President; and

14 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri began his long career of public service in
15 1974 with his election to the Florida House of Representatives, where
16 he served six terms during which he was appointed Chairman of the
17 House Committee on Education, K-12, and the House Committee on
18 Retirement, Personnel, and Collective Bargaining, and was elected
19 Chair of the Duval Legislative Delegation; and

20 **WHEREAS**, following his service in the Legislature, Tommy Hazouri
21 was elected Mayor of Jacksonville in 1987 and made a tremendous impact
22 on the city during his term. He is best known for successfully
23 fighting to enact and enforce regulations that drastically reduced
24 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
25 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
26 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
27 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
28 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for
29 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
30 in Jacksonville. During his tenure he also led the effort to replace
31 the outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing

1 complex with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and
2 worked in tandem with the City Council to enact a Minority Business
3 Enterprise program to enhance minority business participation in City
4 procurement opportunities; and

5 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri's career of public service continued in the
6 new century when he was elected to the School Board in 2004, serving
7 two terms through 2012 and being elected as Vice Chair in 2007-08 and
8 Chair of the board in 2008-09; and

9 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, Tommy Hazouri once again stepped up to serve
10 his community by seeking and winning a seat on the City Council as
11 an At-Large Council Member and was re-elected to a second term in
12 2019. His council colleagues elected him Vice President for 2019-20
13 and Council President for 2020-21. During his tenure his experience
14 and leadership helped guide the Council through several tumultuous
15 issues, including the proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax
16 for pension amortization plan, the expansion of the local option gas
17 tax for meeting infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville
18 Jaguars stadium-area development proposals; and

19 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri's life-long concern for the interests and
20 well-being of Jacksonville's citizens is evidenced by his work in
21 continuing to fulfill the intent of Consolidation, the adoption of a
22 broadened Human Rights Ordinance, the appointment of a Special
23 Committee on Social Justice and Community Investment, and laying the
24 early foundation for the creation of the Jacksonville Small and
25 Emerging Business (JSEB) program. As a trusted and beloved civic
26 leader, he measured every decision against his hallmark sentiment
27 that sets the standard for what should and must take place in city
28 government: "It has to be all about Jacksonville"; now therefore

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

30 **Section 1.** The City Council hereby honors and commemorates
31 the life and legacy its late colleague Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri and

1 extends is profound condolences to his family, friends, and countless
2 admirers. His career of public service may be unparalleled in
3 Jacksonville's modern history, and he has left an indelible mark on
4 the city he loved so much.

5 **Section 2. Effective Date.** This Resolution shall become
6 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective
7 without the Mayor's signature.

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9 Form Approved:

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11 /s/ Paige H. Johnston

12 Office of General Counsel

13 Legislation Prepared By: Jeff Clements, City Council Research

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