

9/28/21

1 Introduced by Council Members Salem, Newby, and Boylan:

4 **ORDINANCE 2021-709-W**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING RENAMING A PUBLIC LIBRARY
6 AND PUBLIC PARK PURSUANT TO SECTION 122.105,
7 *ORDINANCE CODE*; RENAMING "SOUTH MANDARIN BRANCH
8 LIBRARY" AND "MANDARIN SOUTH LIBRARY PARK," BOTH
9 LOCATED AT 12125 SAN JOSE BOULEVARD,
10 JACKSONVILLE, FL 32223, IN COUNCIL DISTRICT 6,
11 AS "THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR. LIBRARY" AND
12 "THOMAS L. "TOMMY" HAZOURI, SR. PARK",
13 RESPECTIVELY, TO RECOGNIZE THE MANY
14 ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE
15 TOMMY HAZOURI TO THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE AND
16 THE MANDARIN COMMUNITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE
17 DATE.

18
19 **WHEREAS**, Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr., a Jacksonville native,
20 graduated from Andrew Jackson High School and earned his bachelor's
21 degree in history and government from Jacksonville University where
22 he was elected Student Government President; and

23 **WHEREAS**, Mr. Hazouri began his long career of public service in
24 1974 with his election to the Florida House of Representatives, where
25 he served six terms during which he was appointed Chairman of the
26 House Committee on Education, K-12, and the House Committee on
27 Retirement, Personnel, and Collective Bargaining, and was elected
28 Chair of the Duval Legislative Delegation; and

29 **WHEREAS**, following his service in the Legislature, Tommy Hazouri
30 was elected Mayor of Jacksonville in 1987 and made a tremendous impact

1 on the city during his term. He is best known for successfully
2 fighting to enact and enforce regulations that drastically reduced
3 the odors emitted from industrial manufacturing and processing plants
4 that had given Jacksonville a notorious reputation, for spearheading
5 the campaign that convinced voters to approve a sales tax to replace
6 the tolls on the city's bridges in order to eliminate traffic
7 bottlenecks and toll booths and thereby improve air quality, and for
8 recruiting several major corporations to locate and expand offices
9 in Jacksonville. During his tenure he also led the effort to replace
10 the outdated and poorly maintained Blodgett Homes public housing
11 complex with new, modernized housing and a state office campus, and
12 worked in tandem with the City Council to enact a Minority Business
13 Enterprise program to enhance minority business participation in City
14 procurement opportunities; and

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

19 **WHEREAS**, in 2015, Tommy Hazouri once again stepped up to serve
20 his community by seeking and winning a seat on the City Council as
21 an At-Large Council Member and was re-elected to a second term in
22 2019. His council colleagues elected him Vice President for 2019-20
23 and Council President for 2020-21. During his tenure his experience
24 and leadership helped guide the Council through several tumultuous
25 issues, including the proposed privatization of JEA, the sales tax
26 for pension amortization plan, the expansion of the local option gas
27 tax for meeting infrastructure needs, and several Jacksonville
28 Jaguars stadium-area development proposals; and

29 **WHEREAS**, his life-long concern for the interests and well-being
30 of Jacksonville's citizens, is evidenced by his work in continuing
31 to fulfill the intent of Consolidation, the adoption of a broadened

1 Human Rights Ordinance, the appointment of a Special Committee on
2 Social Justice and Community Investment, and laying the early
3 foundation for the creation of the Jacksonville Small and Emerging
4 Business (JSEB); and who, as a trusted and beloved civic leader,
5 measured every decision against his hallmark sentiment that sets the
6 standard for what should and must take place in the Council Chamber:
7 "It has to be all about Jacksonville"; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Council desires to honor the legacy of Tommy
9 Hazouri's dedication to the City of Jacksonville by renaming "South
10 Mandarin Branch Library" and "Mandarin South Library Park," both
11 located at 12125 San Jose Boulevard, to be known as "Thomas L.
12 "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library" and the "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr.
13 Park", respectively, in order to recognize the contribution of Tommy
14 Hazouri to this City, and particularly to Mandarin, where he lived
15 for many years prior to his passing on September 11, 2021; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Trustees of the Jacksonville Public
17 Library has been consulted in the renaming of the Mandarin South
18 Branch Library and the Board of Trustees does not object to the
19 renaming of the Mandarin South Branch Library; and

20 **WHEREAS**, the decision to rename the Mandarin South Branch
21 Library was coordinated with the Board of Trustees and the Board has
22 agreed to the permanent renaming of the Mandarin South Branch Library
23 to be hereafter known as the "Thomas L. "Tommy" Hazouri, Sr. Library";
24 and

25 **WHEREAS**, the provisions of Section 122.105, *Ordinance Code*, for
26 renaming of the park have been met; the public hearings have been
27 held and the Planning and Development Department has submitted its
28 report to the Council; now, therefore

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

30 **Section 1. Renaming of Library and Park to Honor Thomas L.**
31 **"Tommy" Hazouri, Sr.** The "South Mandarin Branch Library" and

