

1 Introduced by Council Member White:
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4 **ORDINANCE 2025-361**

5 AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING RETIREE ADJUSTMENT
6 PAYMENTS; INCORPORATING RECITALS; AUTHORIZING A
7 RETIRED EMPLOYEE ADJUSTMENT PAYMENT TO RETIREES
8 AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS,
9 GENERAL EMPLOYEES AND POLICE AND FIRE PENSION
10 FUNDS OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING FOR
11 FUNDING FROM PENSION LIABILITY SURTAX; REQUIRING
12 CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY BY THE
13 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GENERAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION
14 PLAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE POLICE AND
15 FIRE PENSION PLAN; PROVIDING FOR TIMING OF
16 PAYMENTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.
17

18 **WHEREAS,** Americans have recently witnessed the worst inflation
19 in 40 years and City of Jacksonville retirees are especially hurt by
20 soaring food and commodity prices, rising energy costs, increasing
21 health care cost for medications and deductibles, increasing property
22 values and taxes, and higher property and automobile insurance
23 premiums; and

24 **WHEREAS,** long-range healthcare costs have risen at a higher
25 rate than overall inflation or economic growth; overall out-of-pocket
26 costs in Medicare are rising and a large healthcare foundation
27 calculated that over the past 20 years, out-of-pocket costs have gone
28 from 15% of the average Social Security benefit to 19%, with the
29 increase split roughly in half between premiums and deductibles; and

30 **WHEREAS,** every year in January, drug manufacturers update
31 their drug prices and a recent analysis by a drug research firm found

1 that manufacturers increased the price on 910 branded drugs, amounting
2 to an overall median increase of 4.7%; and

3 **WHEREAS,** although inflation cooled in 2024, consumer prices
4 still went up; food prices have increased week to week, with some of
5 the biggest hikes occurring on milk, eggs and meat. In the past 2
6 years some food costs increased by 15% to 20%; and

7 **WHEREAS,** the average yearly cost to keep a property insurance
8 policy in the state of Florida is nearly double what it is in the
9 rest of the country and the Insurance Information Institute reports
10 premiums are up nearly 25% statewide this year; now therefore

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

12 **Section 1. Recitals.** The recitals above are incorporated
13 herein by this reference.

14 **Section 2. Retired Employee Adjustment Payment.** The City
15 Council authorizes a Retired Employee Adjustment payment to retirees
16 or beneficiaries of the City of Jacksonville who are members or
17 beneficiaries of the Correctional Officers, General Employees' or
18 Police and Fire Pension Fund, to be paid under the following
19 conditions:

20 A. A retiree or beneficiary who was on the Correctional Officers,
21 General Employees, or Police and Fire Pension payroll on January
22 3, 2025, shall receive a Retired Employee Adjustment payment in
23 the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred and Fifty U.S. dollars
24 (\$1,250.00).

25 B. Any retiree who died after January 3, 2025, and has an eligible
26 beneficiary, the beneficiary shall receive a Retired Employee
27 Adjustment payment in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred and
28 Fifty U.S. dollars (\$1,250.00).

29 C. Any beneficiary who died before January 3, 2025, is not entitled
30 to a Retired Employee Adjustment payment.

31 D. The Retired Employee Adjustment payment authorized herein will

1 not increase the pension benefit base of any retiree or
2 beneficiary.

3 **Section 3. Funding from Pension Liability Surtax.** The
4 Retired Employee Adjustment payments authorized herein will be funded
5 from the proceeds of the Pension Liability Surtax, with no fiscal
6 impact on the General Fund.

7 **Section 4. Certification of Eligibility.** The Administrator
8 of the General Employees' Pension Plan and Executive Director of the
9 Police and Fire Pension Plan shall certify to the City's Chief
10 Financial Officer the eligibility and number of retirees and
11 beneficiaries and the total amount paid for the Retired Employee
12 Adjustment payments authorized herein.

13 **Section 5. Payment Timing.** The payments authorized by this
14 Ordinance shall be identified as "Retired Employee Adjustment" and
15 shall be paid to eligible retirees and beneficiaries as soon as
16 administratively practicable, but not later than on the second pay
17 period after the effective date of this Ordinance.

18 **Section 6. Effective Date.** This Ordinance 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/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Dylan Reingold

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