

Introduced by Council Member White:

ORDINANCE 2025-361

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING RETIREE ADJUSTMENT
PAYMENTS; INCORPORATING RECITALS; AUTHORIZING A
RETIRED EMPLOYEE ADJUSTMENT PAYMENT TO RETIREES
AND BENEFICIARIES OF THE CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS,
GENERAL EMPLOYEES AND POLICE AND FIRE PENSION
FUNDS OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE; PROVIDING FOR
FUNDING FROM PENSION LIABILITY SURTAX; REQUIRING
CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY BY THE
ADMINISTRATOR OF THE GENERAL EMPLOYEES' PENSION
PLAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE POLICE AND
FIRE PENSION PLAN; PROVIDING FOR TIMING OF
PAYMENTS; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

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

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

WHEREAS, every year in January, drug manufacturers update
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.

21
22 Form Approved:

23
24 /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos

25 Office of General Counsel

26 Legislation Prepared By: Dylan Reingold

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