

1 Introduced by Council Member Salem:  
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4 **ORDINANCE 2024-930**

5 AN ORDINANCE REGARDING APPOINTMENTS TO THE  
6 GOVERNING BODY OF JEA; AMENDING SECTION 21.03  
7 (COMPOSITION; COMPENSATION; OFFICERS;  
8 MEETINGS), ARTICLE 21 (JEA), *CITY CHARTER*, TO  
9 ALLOW A LIMITED EXCEPTION TO THE REQUIREMENT  
10 THAT MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE GOVERNING BODY OF  
11 JEA BE RESIDENTS AND ELECTORS OF THE CITY TO  
12 PROVIDE THAT ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR  
13 AND CONFIRMED BY COUNCIL AND ONE MEMBER  
14 NOMINATED BY THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND CONFIRMED  
15 BY COUNCIL MAY RESIDE OUTSIDE THE CITY BUT MUST  
16 EITHER RESIDE WITHIN THE JEA SERVICE TERRITORY  
17 OR MAINTAIN A SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC BUSINESS  
18 INTEREST WITHIN THE JEA SERVICE TERRITORY AS  
19 DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL; PROVIDING FOR  
20 CODIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS; PROVIDING AN  
21 EFFECTIVE DATE.  
22

23 **WHEREAS**, JEA is the largest community-based utility in the  
24 state of Florida, serving Duval County and portions of its surrounding  
25 counties and municipalities with electric, water and wastewater  
26 utilities; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the governing body of JEA (the "JEA Board") is  
28 responsible for, and entrusted with, oversight of JEA to ensure the  
29 organization operates in a manner consistent with its goals, strategic  
30 objectives and core values; and

31 **WHEREAS**, it is important that individuals appointed to the JEA

1 Board bring appropriate knowledge, expertise and experience to the  
2 organization to ensure it operates to the highest standards and in  
3 the best interests of the communities it serves; and

4 **WHEREAS,** Section 21.03 of the City Charter outlines the member  
5 qualifications for individuals appointed to the JEA Board and  
6 includes, in part, a requirement that all members be a resident and  
7 elector of the City for at least six months prior to their appointment  
8 and for the duration of their tenure on the JEA Board; and

9 **WHEREAS,** the JEA service territory extends beyond the City of  
10 Jacksonville and encompasses portions of St. Johns County, Nassau  
11 County, and Clay County; and

12 **WHEREAS,** to ensure the Mayor and Council President can appoint  
13 and nominate, respectively, the most qualified individuals for  
14 confirmation by the City Council to serve on the JEA Board, the  
15 Council desires to provide a limited exception to the aforementioned  
16 requirement that all members must be residents and electors of the  
17 City by allowing up to two seats to be filled by individuals residing  
18 in the JEA service territory or maintaining a substantial economic  
19 business interest in the JEA service territory as determined by the  
20 City Council; and

21 **WHEREAS,** Section 21.13, *City Charter*, authorizes the City  
22 Council to amend any portion of Article 21 pertaining to JEA upon  
23 approval by a two-thirds vote of the Council; now therefore

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

25 **Section 1. Amending Section 21.03 (Composition;**  
26 **compensation; officers; meetings), Article 21 (JEA), City Charter.**

27 Section 21.03 (Composition; compensation; officers; meetings),  
28 Article 21 (JEA), *City Charter*, is hereby amended to read as follows:

29 **PART A - CHARTER LAWS CHARTER OF THE CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA**

30 \* \* \*

31 **ARTICLE 21. - JEA**

1 \* \* \*

2 **Sec. 21.03. - Composition; compensation; officers; meetings.**

3 (a) *Composition; qualifications; removal.* The governing body of JEA  
4 shall consist of seven members, each of whom shall serve for a  
5 term of four years or until such member's successor has been  
6 appointed and has qualified. Four members shall be nominated by  
7 the council president and confirmed by the council, and three  
8 members shall be appointed by the mayor and shall be confirmed by  
9 the council. With regard to one member appointed by council  
10 through open application, the council president shall nominate an  
11 applicant who has one of the following qualifications: was a  
12 former JEA employee, or person recommended by an employee, union  
13 or group of current or former JEA employees. To the extent feasible  
14 and regarding member appointments generally, individuals who have  
15 demonstrated corporate, executive or administrative experience  
16 working in public or private organizations, including, but not  
17 limited to, non-profit and government organizations, are  
18 preferred, but not required, to serve on the governing body of  
19 JEA. Each member shall have been a resident and elector of the  
20 city for at least six consecutive months prior to such member's  
21 appointment, with the limited exception that one member appointed  
22 by the mayor for confirmation by the council and one member  
23 nominated by the council president for confirmation by the council  
24 may reside outside the city and need not be an elector of the city  
25 but must either reside within the JEA service territory or  
26 maintain a substantial economic business interest within the JEA  
27 service territory as determined by the city council. No member  
28 shall hold any other public office or position. If at any time  
29 during a member's tenure on the governing body of JEA, such member  
30 shall cease to possess the qualifications required for membership  
31 on the governing body of JEA, such member shall cease to be a

1 member and a vacancy shall exist on JEA. Any vacancy on the  
2 governing body of JEA, however created, shall be filled for the  
3 unexpired term in the same manner as the position was originally  
4 filled, and the person filling the vacancy shall have and shall  
5 retain all the qualifications prescribed for membership on JEA.  
6 Any member appointed to the governing body of JEA for two  
7 consecutive full terms shall not be eligible for the succeeding  
8 term. The members appointed by the mayor may be removed by the  
9 mayor at any time with or without cause, but a removal must be  
10 approved by a two-thirds vote of the council. The members  
11 appointed by the council may be removed by the council at any time  
12 with or without cause, but a removal must be approved by a two-  
13 thirds vote of the council.

14 \* \* \*

15 **Section 2. Codification Instructions.** The Codifier and the  
16 Office of General Counsel are authorized to make all chapter and  
17 division "tables of contents" consistent with the changes set forth  
18 herein. Such editorial changes and any others necessary to make the  
19 *Ordinance Code* consistent with the intent of this legislation are  
20 approved and directed herein, and changes to the *Ordinance Code* shall  
21 be made forthwith and when inconsistencies are discovered.

22 **Section 3. Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall become  
23 effective upon signature by the Mayor or upon becoming effective  
24 without the Mayor's signature.

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26 Form Approved:

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28           /s/ Mary E. Staffopoulos          

29 Office of General Counsel

30 Legislation Prepared By: Mary E. Staffopoulos

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