

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2020-524

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Office of General Counsel

Date of Introduction: August 25, 2020

Committee(s) of Reference: F, R

Date of Analysis: August 27, 2020

Type of Action: Approval of legal settlement agreement

Bill Summary: The bill approves a settlement agreement between the City and Jax Landing Investments LLC in the amount of \$68,366.02 for the company's costs incurred in the lawsuit over acquisition of the East Parking Lot parcel. It authorizes the General Counsel to take the actions and execute the documents necessary to conclude the litigation.

Background Information: On December 12, 2019, the court entered a final judgment for payment of approximately \$3.7 million by the City to Jacksonville Landing Investments, LLC ("JLI"). Funding for the satisfaction of that judgment was approved under Ord. 2020-264-E. JLI filed a post-judgment claim for taxable costs (court costs, copying costs, expert costs, etc.) in the amount of \$136,732.04. JLI is entitled to taxable costs, however, the reasonable amount of those costs is in dispute. The City and JLI have agreed (subject to Council approval) to settle this issue without the cost and uncertainty of additional litigation for payment by the City to JLI in the amount of \$68,366.02 (half of the demanded costs). The settlement agreement also contemplates that OGC will execute a stipulation of dismissal of the case with prejudice. Sufficient funding has been transferred by MBRC via TD20-350 to the General Fund - Judgments, Claim and Losses Over \$50,000 account for the purpose of payment of the settlement amount.

Policy Impact Area: Legal settlement

Fiscal Impact: City payment of \$68,366.02 from available funds.

Analyst: Clements