

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE REINSTATING AND AMENDING THE RETIREMENT BENEFIT PLAN FOR MEMBERS OF THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK CITY COUNCIL; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Act 437 of 2023, the Arkansas General Assembly has authorized cities of the first class to amend, repeal, or reinstate any retirement benefit system or plan for members of the governing body of a city that had established such a system or plan on or before July 3, 1989; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance No. 4845, as amended by Ordinance No. 6047, the City of North Little Rock had a retirement plan in place for City Council members before July 3, 1989, by which City Council members were eligible to receive retirement benefits from the City's non-uniformed retirement plan upon meeting certain service and age requirements; and

WHEREAS, the previous retirement plan for City Council members should be reinstated; and

WHEREAS, the provisions of the previous retirement plan for City Council members should be amended as set forth herein.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the previous retirement plan for City Council members established by Ordinance No. 4845, as amended by Ordinance No. 6047, is hereby reinstated subject to the amendment to the plan as set forth in Section 2 of this Ordinance.

SECTION 2: That to the extent any provisions of the plan apply to City Council members, the retirement plan established by Ordinance No. 4845, as amended by Ordinance No. 6047, is hereby amended to provide:

That any person who shall serve as an appointed or elected City Council member of the City of North Little Rock for a period of not less than sixteen (16) years, upon reaching age sixty-five (65), shall be entitled to retire at an annual retirement benefit during the remainder of his or her natural life, payable at the rate of one-half (1/2) of the salary payable to the City Council member at the time of his or her retirement, said payments to be made from the City's General Fund.

SECTION 3: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 5: It is hereby found and determined that provision of retirement benefits to City Council members is of immediate importance to the operation of the City and the immediate passage of this ordinance is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare, THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

APPROVED:

Mayor Terry C. Hartwick

SPONSOR:

ATTEST:

TERRY HARTWICK
Mayor Terry C. Hartwick *by AT*

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Amy Beckman Fields
Amy Beckman Fields, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/ABF

FILED	<u>10.26</u>	A.M.	___	P.M.
By	<u>A. Fields</u>			
DATE	<u>8.8.23</u>			
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector North Little Rock, Arkansas				
RECEIVED BY	<u>S. Ussery</u>			