



City of North Port

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-07

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA; AMENDING THE CODE OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA, CHAPTER 2, ARTICLE V., DIVISION 5. - POLICE OFFICERS' PENSIONS; PROVIDING FOR FINDINGS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Chapter 2, Article V, Division 5 of the Code of the City of North Port, Florida sets forth the regulations related to pensions for the City of North Port's police officer pension plan members; and

WHEREAS, on July 18, 2024, recent amendments to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of North Port and the Florida Police Benevolent Association, were signed to provide for amendments to the Supplemental Benefit and to the Deferred Retirement Option Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that these amendments serve the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the City of North Port, Florida.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1 – FINDINGS

- 1.01 The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated in this ordinance by reference.
- 1.02 In accordance with Florida Statutes Section 166.041(4)(a), the City timely posted a business impact estimate on the City's website on or before the date the newspaper published notice of this ordinance's final reading.

SECTION 2 – ADOPTION

- 2.01 Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of North Port, Florida is hereby amended as follows:

"Chapter 2 – ADMINISTRATION

...

ARTICLE V. – EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

...

DIVISION 5. – POLICE OFFICERS' PENSIONS

...

Sec. 2-260. – Benefit amounts and eligibility.

...

(d) *Supplemental benefit.* Effective October 1, 2001, all current and future retirees, including service retirees, disability retirees, current and future terminated vested persons, and beneficiaries shall receive a \$165.00 per-month benefit supplement. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, members hired on or after the effective date of ordinance 2014-21, and the beneficiaries of such members, shall not be eligible for a supplemental benefit under this subsection (d). Notwithstanding the foregoing two sentences, effective October 1, 2024, members who elected to continue participating in this system after the City joined FRS, current retirees from this system, current terminated vested members of this system, and beneficiaries of such members, shall receive a \$200.00 per-month benefit supplement. Those who elected to join FRS are not eligible for this supplemental benefit.

...

Sec. 2-283. - Deferred retirement option plan.

...

(b) *Participation.*

...

(3) *Period of participation.* A member who elects to participate in the DROP under subsection (b)(2) on or after the effective date of the ordinance amending this subsection shall participate in the DROP for not more than 60 months beginning at the time his or her election to participate in the DROP first becomes effective. Notwithstanding the foregoing, effective October 1, 2024, members who elect to participate in the DROP shall participate for a period not to exceed 96 months, which becomes effective at the beginning of his or her election to participate in the DROP. An election to participate in the DROP shall constitute an irrevocable election to resign from the service of the city not later than the date the DROP participation period ends provided for in the previous sentence. A member who is participating in the DROP on October 1, 2024, may elect to extend his or her DROP participation period from 60 months to 96 months. Such members must submit a written election to extend their DROP participation no later than 30 days prior to the termination of their current DROP period. For members who elect to extend their maximum DROP participation period to 96 months, all rules applicable to the DROP shall be in effect for the extended DROP participation period. A member may participate only once.

..."

SECTION 3 – CONFLICTS

3.01 In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this ordinance and any other ordinance, in whole or in part, the provisions of this ordinance will prevail to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 4 – SEVERABILITY

4.01 If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is for any reason invalid or unconstitutional, that provision will be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision and will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance.

SECTION 5 – CODIFICATION

5.01 In this ordinance, additions are shown as underlined and deletions as ~~striethrough~~. Any additional codification information and notations appear in *italics*. These editorial notations are not intended to appear in the codified text.

SECTION 6 – EFFECTIVE DATE

6.01 This ordinance takes effect immediately upon adoption.

READ BY TITLE ONLY at first reading by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, in public session on February 25, 2025.

ADOPTED by the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, on the second and final reading in public session on March 11, 2025.

CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA

PHIL STOKES
MAYOR

ATTEST

HEATHER FAUST, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND CORRECTNESS

MICHAEL GOLEN, CPM
INTERIM CITY ATTORNEY