ORDINANCE NO. 26-021

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF FORT PIERCE, FLORIDA; PROVIDING FOR A **MORATORIUM** ON THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF CITY **IMPACT FEES** FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY'S DESIGNATED URBAN INFILL AND REDEVELOPMENT AREA REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 113-8, 113-15 THROUGH AND INCLUDING 113-19 OF THE CITY CODE; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS THEREOF IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Commission adopted Ordinance No. 25-033 on November 3, 2025, issuing a one (1) year moratorium on City Impact Fees within the City's Designated Urban Infill and Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to continue to promote Fort Pierce to encourage the investment of private resources in the urban core of our city by suspending the collection of City Impact Fees in an effort to stimulate and encourage new development within the boundaries of the City's Designated Urban Infill and Redevelopment Area; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium of impact fees herein may place the City in a more competitive position, thus enhancing efforts by the City and the community to encourage economic development opportunities to create permanent employment expansion opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds the most effective economic stimulus that the City can provide is to offer incentives to new construction projects by removing the City-imposed development costs represented by city impact fees; and

WHEREAS, this is an integral part of the City's overall economic development strategy; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission will evaluate the impacts of suspending the City Impact Fee Program as herein provided for, and shall thereafter further consider changes in the Comprehensive Plan if and to the extent necessary so as to reflect the experience resulting from the temporary moratorium herein provided for; and

WHEREAS, such moratorium shall apply to all such new construction within the boundaries of the City's Designated Urban Infill and Redevelopment Area for which a building permit is issued subsequent to the adoption of this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the moratorium will continue for one (1) year after its effective date, unless otherwise modified or repealed by the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, Section 166.021, Florida Statutes, provides the City with the power to enhance and expand economic activity in the City including the authority to expend and use public funds toward achievement of the City's economic development goals; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Pierce will continue to collect Impact Fees for St. Lucie County in accordance with established Interlocal Agreement(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida as follows:

SECTION 1. The imposition of Impact Fees, as provided by Code Sections 113-15 through and including Section 113-19, and the collection of said fees as provided by Code Section 113-8, are hereby suspended within the boundaries of the City's Designated

Urban Infill and Redevelopment Area for a period not to exceed five (5) years from the date of final passage hereof and shall be reinstated thereafter to full force and effect unless or until they should be modified or amended.

SECTION 2. All ordinances of parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are and the same shall be repealed and shall be of no further force or effect whatsoever.

SECTION 3. This ordinance is and the same shall become effective immediately upon final passage hereof and shall remain in effect for a period of one (1) year, or for such shorter period as may hereafter be determined by the City Commission by subsequent ordinance, following such final passage and shall then cease to become effective unless otherwise extended by further ordinance.

SECTION 4. If any provision of this ordinance is held to be invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable for any reason by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this article, which shall be deemed separate, distinct, and independent provisions to the fullest extent possible.

APPROVED AS TO
FORM AND CORRECTNESS:

_____
Camille Wallace
City Attorney

STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, Mayor Commissioner and the City Clerk of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing and above Ordinance No. 26-0XX was duly advertised by title only in the St. Lucie News Tribune on October 23, 2026; copy of said Ordinance was made available at the Office of the City Clerk to the public upon request; said Ordinance was duly introduced, read by title only, and passed on first reading by the City Commission of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, on November 2, 2026; and was duly introduced, read by title only, and passed on second and final reading on November 16, 2026, by the City Commission of Pierce, Florida.

IN WITNESS HEREWITH, we hereunto set our hands and affix the Official Seal of the City of Fort Pierce, Florida, this 16th day of November, 2026.

_____
Linda Hudson, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Linda W. Cox
City Clerk

(SEAL)