



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
April 21, 2020

ITEM TITLE:

Emergency Ordinance. An Emergency Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Chapter 46 – “Pensions” of the City of Coral Gables Code, temporarily waiving the 30-day break in service requirement for retired employees who are rehired as part-time Police Officers or Communications Officers during the COVID-19 emergency; amending Section 46-262, entitled “Limitation on Payment of Retirement Income”; and providing for Severability, Repealer, Codification, Compliance, and providing for an Effective Date.

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Approve.

BRIEF HISTORY:

On March 1, 2020, the State Surgeon General and State Health Officer declared a Public Health Emergency exists in the State of Florida as a result of COVID-19. On March 9, 2020, Governor Ron DeSantis issued Executive Order 20-52 declaring a state of emergency for the entire State of Florida as a result of COVID-19. During this state of emergency, it is vital that the City maintain a sufficient level of trained essential personnel to meet the increased demands of the City’s residents for the duration of the COVID-19 state of emergency.

City employees may be temporarily unable to report to work due to possible COVID-19 exposure or quarantines related to COVID-19, which might impact essential governmental functions. Training new employees to serve in the positions of police officer and communications officer requires significant time and resources, which may be better utilized in support of the City’s response to COVID-19. Retired City police officers and communications officers possess the necessary skills and training to immediately assist with the City’s COVID-19 response. The City’s essential governmental functions should not be hindered by the termination and reemployment limitations, including the 30-day break in service requirement for those employees returning on a part-time basis, pertaining to recently retired essential personnel during the COVID-19 state of emergency. It is necessary and appropriate to take action to ensure that COVID-19 remains controlled, and that residents and visitors of the City remain safe and secure.

In adopted the ordinance the City Commission finds that it is necessary in order to protect the health and safety of the citizens of Coral Gables. The ordinance needs a 4/5th vote for adoption.

Attachments:

1. Draft Emergency Ordinance
2. Impact Statement by GRS