

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2021-225**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION AMENDING RESOLUTION 2019-55 WHICH ADOPTED A POLICY FOR CITY COMMISSIONER EXPENSE ACCOUNTS/OFFICE BUDGETS.

**WHEREAS**, at the October 10, 2017 City Commission meeting, the City Commission adopted an Ordinance setting out the duties and powers of City Commissioners, which includes the office of the Mayor and Vice Mayor; and

**WHEREAS**, said ordinance, codified as Section 2-32 of the City Code, states under subsection (b)(5), that each City Commissioner shall have the authority to have an office budget in an amount determined in the City budget; and

**WHEREAS**, during the October 10, 2017 City Commission meeting, the stated purpose for the budgeted amount was to perform "outreach" which was described as a mail piece, town hall meeting, food/refreshments for town hall meetings, fees for a Constant Contact account, and other similar expenses; and

**WHEREAS**, \$5,000 per year was budgeted for each elected official's expense account/office budget; and

**WHEREAS**, in Resolutions 2019-55 (as amended) and 2019-34 the City Commission provided further clarify and specification as to the potential uses for those funds; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Commission wishes to add donations for a public benefit to a public school in Coral Gables or a charitable organization based in Coral Gables as an intended use of a City Commissioner's allocated funds;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES:**

**SECTION 1.** The foregoing "Whereas" clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Resolution upon adoption hereof.

**SECTION 2.** That the yearly budgeted amount for each elected official is intended to be used for the following expenses:

- a.) Fees for mass mailings, public outreach software platforms, or other online communication accounts that are used by the elected officials to send official communications to City residents and businesses;
- b.) Design, production, and printing costs for flyers, palm cards, or other advertisements for Town Hall or community meetings and community enhancement events hosted by the elected official;
- c.) Purchase of refreshments or other necessities for Town Hall or community meetings and community enhancement events such as environmental clean ups, park beautification, educational presentations and similar events, hosted by the elected official;
- d.) Purchase of refreshments such as coffee, tea, and water to be offered when welcoming visiting constituents;
- e.) Expenses associated with the hosting of dignitaries;
- f.) Purchase of tickets to events held in the City where the elected official is attending in his/her official capacity and tickets have not otherwise been procured; and
- g.) Purchase of particular items needed for the office of the elected official such as frames, small furniture, appliances, and other similar items not covered by other City accounts; and
- h.) Donations for a public benefit to a public school in Coral Gables or a charitable organization based in Coral Gables.

**SECTION 3.** Any balance remaining in the account at the end of the fiscal year shall be deposited back into the General Fund.


**SECTION 4.** If a City Commissioner has disbursed part of his or her budget pursuant to section h of those expenses above, the City Commissioner shall not request additional funds from the General Fund for that budget year.

**SECTION 5.** That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWENTY-FOURTH DAY OF AUGUST,  
A.D., 2021.


(Moved: Anderson / Seconded: Menendez)  
(Yeas: Fors, Jr, Mena, Menendez, Anderson, Lago)  
(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)  
(Non-Agenda Item)

APPROVED:

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VINCE LAGO  
MAYOR

ATTEST:

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BILLY Y. URQUIA  
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

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MIRIAM SOLER RAMOS  
CITY ATTORNEY