

**STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF CLAYTON**

ORDINANCE 2025-____

1 AN ORDINANCE BY MAYOR ANGELYNE BUTLER AND COUNCILMEMBERS
2 KIMBERLY JAMES, DELORES A. GUNN, HECTOR GUTIERREZ, LATRESA AKINS-
3 WELLS, AND ALLAN MEARS OF THE CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA TO
4 INCREASE THE COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS; TO
5 PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; AND FOR OTHER LAWFUL PURPOSES.

6 **WHEREAS**, the City of Forest Park (“City”) is a municipal corporation duly organized
7 and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia and is charged with being fiscally responsible
8 concerning the use and expenditure of all public funds; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the duly elected governing authority of the City is the Mayor and Council
10 thereof; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the governing authority is authorized under O.C.G.A. § 36-35-4 to fix the
12 salary, compensation, and expenses of the elective members of the municipal governing authority
13 subject to certain requirements; and

14 **WHEREAS**, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-35-4, the governing authority desires to
15 increase the annual salary for the Mayor and City Councilmembers; and

16 **WHEREAS**, the compensation paid by the City to the Mayor shall be increased from
17 Twenty-Three Thousand, and Forty 16/100 Dollars (\$23,040.16) annually to Thirty-Four
18 Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty and 24/100 Dollars (\$34,560.24) annually; and

19 **WHEREAS**, the compensation for each of the members of the City Council shall be
20 increased from Fourteen Thousand, Four Hundred and 36/100 Dollars (\$14,400.36) annually to
21 Twenty-One Thousand, Six Hundred and 54/100 Dollars (\$21,600.54) annually; and

22 **WHEREAS**, the salary increase shall not take effect until January 1, 2026, which is after
23 the next municipal election following the adoption of this Ordinance; and

24 **WHEREAS**, public notice of intent to take action at the May 5, 2025 regular council
25 meeting was advertised in the Clayton News Daily on April 16, 23, and 30, 2025, pursuant to
26 O.C.G.A. § 36-35-4; and

27 **WHEREAS**, the amendments contained herein would benefit the health, safety, morals,
28 and welfare of the citizens of the City; and

29 **BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED** by the Mayor and Council of the City of Forest
30 Park, Georgia, and by the authority thereof:

31 **Section 1.** The City's Code of Ordinances, Title 2 ("General Government"), Chapter 1
32 ("Mayor and Council"), Article D ("Compensation for the Mayor and Council"), Section 2-1-32
33 ("Annual compensation and monthly expense allowance for the mayor") is hereby amended with
34 permanent additions in **bold** font and permanent deletions in ~~striketrough~~ font to be read and
35 codified as set forth below:

36 "Sec. 2-1-32. - Annual compensation ~~and monthly expense allowance~~ for the mayor.

37 (a) The mayor shall receive an annual compensation **in the amount of Thirty-Four**
38 **Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty and 24/100 Dollars (\$34,560.00)** that ~~shall~~
39 ~~be set by resolution of the governing body, and~~ shall be paid on a monthly basis.
40 In any month that the mayor shall be absent without just cause from a regular
41 meeting or a regular work session held during that month, then there shall be a
42 deduction of ten (10) percent from the mayor's gross monthly compensation for
43 that month for each regular meeting missed by the mayor without just cause that
44 month, and a deduction of ten (10) percent from said gross compensation for each
45 regular work session missed by the mayor without just cause that month.

46 (b) For purposes of this section, "just cause" shall mean and include an absence due
47 to personal illness of the mayor or a member of the mayor's immediate family, an
48 absence due to attending the funeral of an immediate family member, or any
49 absence deemed justified and reasonable by a vote of the governing body. In all
50 cases, the question of whether there was "just cause" for an absence shall be

determined by a vote of the governing body based on information provided by the mayor.

(c) The mayor, in addition to his or her annual salary, shall **be reimbursed for certain reasonable expenses in accordance with Article F of this Chapter** ~~receive payment up to an amount set by resolution of the governing body on a monthly basis so as to reimburse the mayor for expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the mayor for carrying out his or her duties during the preceding month.~~

(d) The compensation of the mayor shall be subject to any penalty imposed by operation of section 2-6-12(b) of this Code.”

Section 2. The City’s Code of Ordinances, Title 2 (“General Government”), Chapter 1 (“Mayor and Council”), Article D (“Compensation for the Mayor and Council”), Section 2-1-33 (“Compensation and expense of members of the city council”) is hereby amended with permanent additions in **bold** font and permanent deletions in ~~striketrough~~ font to be read and codified as set forth below:

“Sec. 2-1-33. - ~~Compensation and expenses~~ **Annual compensation for** of members of the city council.

(a) Each member of the city council shall receive an annual compensation **in the amount of Twenty-One Thousand, Six Hundred and 54/100 Dollars (\$21,600.54)** ~~that shall be set by resolution of the governing body, and~~ shall be paid on a monthly basis. In any month that a councilmember shall be absent without just cause from a regular meeting or a regular work session held during that month, then there shall be a deduction of ten (10) percent from the councilmember's gross monthly compensation for that month for each regular meeting missed by said councilmember without just cause that month, and a deduction of ten (10) percent from said gross compensation for each regular work session missed by said councilmember without just cause for that month.

(b) For purposes of this section, "just cause" shall mean and include an absence due to personal illness of the councilmember or a member of the councilmember's immediate family, an absence due to attending the funeral of an immediate family member, or any absence deemed justified and reasonable by a vote of the governing body. In all cases, the question of whether there was "just cause" for an absence shall be determined by a vote of the governing body based on information provided by the councilmember.

(c) Each member of the city council, in addition to his or her annual salary, shall **be reimbursed for certain reasonable expenses in accordance with Article F of this Chapter** ~~receive payment up to an amount set by resolution of the governing body on a monthly basis so as to reimburse said councilmember for expenses actually and necessarily incurred by the councilmember for carrying out his or her duties during the preceding month.~~

(d) The compensation of each member of the city council shall be subject to any penalty imposed by operation of section 2-6-12(b) of this Code.”

Section 3. The preamble of this Ordinance shall be considered to be and is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set out herein.

Section 4. This Ordinance shall be codified in a manner consistent with the laws of the State of Georgia and the City of Forest Park.

Section 5. (a) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that all sections, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, and phrases of this Ordinance are or were, upon their enactment, believed by the Mayor and Council to be fully valid, enforceable, and constitutional.

(b) It is hereby declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, each and every section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is severable from every other section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance. It is hereby further declared to be the intention of the Mayor and Council that, to the greatest extent allowed by law, no section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance is mutually dependent upon any other section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Ordinance.

(c) In the event that any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this Ordinance shall, for any reason whatsoever, be declared invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, it is the express intent of the Mayor and Council that such invalidity, unconstitutionality or unenforceability shall, to the

112 greatest extent allowed by law, not render invalid, unconstitutional or otherwise unenforceable any
113 of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs or sections of the Ordinance and that, to
114 the greatest extent allowed by law, all remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and
115 sections of the Ordinance shall remain valid, constitutional, enforceable, and of full force and
116 effect.

117 **Section 6.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly
118 repealed.

119 **Section 7.** This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption by the
120 Mayor and City Council of the City of Forest Park as provided in the City Charter.

121 **Section 8.** The City Clerk, with the concurrence of the City Attorney, authorized to correct
122 any scrivener's errors found in this Ordinance, including any exhibits, as enacted.

123 **SO ORDAINED** this 5th day of May 2025.

CITY OF FOREST PARK, GEORGIA

Angelyne Butler, *Mayor*

ATTEST:

(SEAL)
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

City Attorney