

RESOLUTION 41-07-25

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE REMAINING YEARS OF RATE INCREASES AS RECOMMENDED IN THE STORMWATER UTILITY RATE STUDY CONDUCTED BY RAFTELIS FINANCIAL CONSULTANTS, INC.; AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANNUAL NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026 THROUGH 2028; AND PROVIDING FOR MODIFICATIONS IN THE EVENT OF EMERGENCIES OR UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Town of Lake Park, Florida (“Town”) is a municipal corporation of the State of Florida with such power and authority as has been conferred upon it by the Florida Constitution and Chapter 166, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the Town operates the Stormwater utility system as a self-supporting enterprise fund; and

WHEREAS, the Town retained Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc. (“Raftelis”) to perform a comprehensive rate study to assess the financial condition of the Stormwater utility system and to make rate recommendations for Fiscal Years 2024 through 2028; and

WHEREAS, the Stormwater Rate Study Final Report dated May 2023 concluded that without scheduled rate increases, the utility would face operational deficits and be unable to fund infrastructure improvements or meet working capital reserve goals; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission previously adopted the Fiscal Year 2024 and 2025 rates and now desires to approve the remaining years of the recommended rate adjustments for Fiscal Years 2026 through 2028 to ensure long-term financial sustainability and system resiliency; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Stormwater utility rates are as follows:

- **Fiscal Year 2026:** \$40.52/month per ESU (\$486.24/year)
- **Fiscal Year 2027:** \$45.79/month per ESU (\$549.48/year)
- **Fiscal Year 2028:** \$49.91/month per ESU (\$598.92/year)

WHEREAS, the Town Commission acknowledges that these rates may be modified only in the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance that requires reallocation of funding or deferment of utility operations and/or capital projects, and any such modification shall be brought before the Town Commission for review and action; and

WHEREAS, the Town Commission understands that any disruption in the implementation of the proposed rate schedule may hinder the delivery of planned stormwater capital improvements and limit the utility’s capacity to address flood resiliency and compliance requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COMMISSION OF THE TOWN OF LAKE PARK, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2. The Town Commission hereby approves the implementation of the Stormwater utility rate increases as recommended by Raftelis for Fiscal Years 2026, 2027, and 2028.

Section 3. The approved rates shall be collected through the Town's annual non-ad valorem special assessment process and shall apply to all developed properties based on their respective Equivalent Stormwater Unit (ESU) designation.

Section 4. In the event of an emergency or unforeseen circumstance, the Town Manager shall present a recommendation to the Town Commission for any temporary rate modifications. Such a recommendation shall include an explanation of the circumstances and a description of any anticipated impacts on stormwater infrastructure investments or operational performance.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.