

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COUNCIL

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION COUNCIL SERIES NO. C-7313

COUNCIL SPONSOR: TANNER/IMPASTATO

PROVIDED BY: COUNCIL OFFICE

RESOLUTION TO AFFIRM THE COUNCIL’S INTENTION TO PURSUE A SALES TAX / PROPERTY TAX / FRANCHISE FEE TO ADDRESS THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET SHORTFALL FOR UNFUNDED MANDATED AGENCIES INCLUDING PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES.

WHEREAS, the State of Louisiana mandates certain agencies and functions in each parish without providing a dedicated funding source to support their operational and capital costs; and

WHEREAS, unfunded mandated agencies and functions include the St. Tammany Parish Jail, the Twenty-Second Judicial District Attorney, the Twenty-Second Judicial District Court, the St. Tammany Coroner’s Office, the Justice Center Courtrooms and Offices, St. Tammany Parish Assessor’s Office, certain functions of the Clerk of Court’s Office, the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs, Registrar of Voters, Justices of the Peace/Constables, and the City Court of East St. Tammany; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor’s 2026 Informational Brief found St. Tammany Parish Government has a structural budgetary deficit in its General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the resulting budgetary shortfall in the Parish’s General Fund is approximately \$16 million in 2027, and will increase to approximately \$22 million in 2028; and

WHEREAS, the Parish Council, along with community partners including Parish President Michael B. Cooper, Sheriff Randy Smith, District Attorney Collin Sims, Twenty-Second Judicial District Court Judges Alan Zaunbrecher and Vincent Lobello, and Fire District No. 1 Chief Chris Kaufmann, have researched revenue options in concert with PFM Financial Advisor, LLC, St. Tammany Parish Government’s Financial Advisor; and

WHEREAS, the legislative powers of the Parish Council include levying taxes, assessments, and charges and providing for the raising of revenue; and

WHEREAS, the Parish Council desires to pursue a solution to address this funding shortfall and avoid the severe impacts to unfunded mandated agencies, in particular our public safety agencies that would otherwise have long-lasting negative effects on the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of St. Tammany Parish.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED to affirm the Council’s intention to pursue a sales tax / property tax / franchise fee to address the general fund budget shortfall for unfunded mandated agencies including public safety agencies.

THIS RESOLUTION HAVING BEEN SUBMITTED TO A VOTE, AND THE VOTE THEREON WAS AS FOLLOWS:

MOVED FOR ADOPTION BY: _____ SECONDED BY: _____

YEAS:

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

THIS RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED ADOPTED ON THE 30TH DAY OF APRIL, 2026, AT A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL, A QUORUM OF THE MEMBERS BEING PRESENT AND VOTING.

CHERYL TANNER, COUNCIL CHAIR

ATTEST:

KATRINA L. BUCKLEY, COUNCIL CLERK