## **ORDINANCE NO. 2025-030**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, SPECIFICALLY DISSOLVING THE AMERICAN BEACH WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR THE PROCESS FOR THE TRANSFER OF ASSETS, PROPERTY AND INDEBTEDNESS; DISSOLVING THE ADVISORY BOARD; AMENDING CHAPTER 30 ¾ UTILITIES; ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL; SPECIFICALLY REPEALING SECTION 30 ¾ -1 AMERICAN BEACH WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT; PROVIDING FOR CODIFICATION IN THE NASSAU COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTING PROVISIONS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the authority granted by Section 125.01 and 189.02, Nassau County Board of County Commissioners ("Board") created a dependent special district known as the American Beach Water and Sewer District ("District") by Ordinance 2020-26, dated August 24, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the American Beach Water and Sewer District was to construct, and maintain water and sewer lines in the unincorporated area of the county within the defined boundaries of the District; and

WHEREAS, the public purpose for which the District was created was development of water and sewer infrastructure allowing for the conversion of well and septic in the defined boundaries within the District; and

WHEREAS, the installation of water and sewer infrastructure has been completed and accepted by the County; and

WHEREAS, all property of the District is public property; and

**WHEREAS,** pursuant to Section 189.076, Florida Statutes, dissolution of the District shall transfer the title to all property and indebtedness of the District to the County; and

WHEREAS, as the public purpose for which the District was created is completed and pursuant to Section 189.071, Florida Statutes, dissolution of the District is to be effectuated by Ordinance.

# NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA:

# SECTION 1. AMERICAN BEACH WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT DISSOLVED.

Pursuant to Section 125.01 and 189.071, Florida Statutes, the dependent special district known as American Beach Water and Sewer District is hereby dissolved.

## SECTION 2. ASSETS, PROPERTY, AND INDEBTEDNESS.

All assets, both tangible and intangible, and indebtedness of the District shall be transferred to Nassau County pursuant to Section 189.076(2), Florida Statutes.

## SECTION 3. ADVISORY BOARD DISSOLVED.

The American Beach Water and Sewer District Advisory Board is dissolved as of the date of passage of this Ordinance.

# **SECTION 4. REPORTING.**

A certified copy of this executed Ordinance shall be filed with the Special District Accountability Program of Florida Commerce within thirty (30) days of passage pursuant to Section 189.071, Florida Statutes.

## SECTION 5. REPEALING SECTION 30 ¾ -1 IN ITS ENTIRETY.

## Sec. 303/4-1. American Beach Water and Sewer District.

- (a) American Beach Water and Sewer District. Pursuant to F.S. §§ 125.01 and 189.02, there is hereby created a dependent special district to be known as the "American Beach Water and Sewer District" ("district"). The boundaries of the district shall be those set forth in Exhibit "A", attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- (b) Purpose and function.
  - (1) The purpose of the district is to construct, and maintain water and sewer lines in the unincorporated area of the county within the boundaries of the district.
  - (2) The board hereby declares that a dependent special district is the best means of establishing these public purposes and for constructing, leasing, operating and

- managing assets of water and sewer systems within the district. The creation of the district is consistent with the county comprehensive plan.
- (3) The creation and organization of the district and the fulfillment of its objectives serves a public purpose and is in all respects for the benefit of the people of this state, the county and their constituents, and the persons or entities served by the district facilities. The district is performing an essential governmental function.
- (4) All property of the district is and shall in all respects be considered to be public property, and the title to such property shall be held by the district for the benefit of the public.

# (e) District governing board.

- (1) The governing body of the district shall be the board of county commissioners. The financial disclosure requirements already applicable to the board of county commissioners shall apply to the district governing board.
- (2) The affairs, actions and duties of the district shall be undertaken at a duly called meeting pursuant the county's typical procedures for noticing and conducting public meetings.
- (3) A certificate, resolution or instrument signed by the chairman, vice chairman or such other person of the district as may be hereafter designated and authorized by the board shall be evidence of the action of the district and any such certificate, resolution or other instrument so signed shall conclusively be presumed to be authoric. Likewise, all facts and matters stated therein shall conclusively be presumed to be accurate and true.
- (d) Powers of district governing board. The governing body of the American Beach Water and Sewer District shall have, without limitation, all of the powers and authority necessary construct, own, operate, lease and maintain water and sewer systems in the unincorporated area of the county included within the boundaries of the district and more specifically, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall have the following powers:
  - (1) To sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, complain and defend, in all courts.
  - (2) Subject to the prohibition in subsection (g), to acquire for its purposes by grant, purchase, gift, exchange, or in any manner, all property, real or personal, or any estate or interest therein, on such terms and conditions as the governing body shall, by resolution, fix and determine, and to own all such property in its own name.
  - (3) To enter into agreements with a political subdivision, agency or officer of the state, including, but not limited to state government, county, city, school district, single-purpose and multipurpose special district, single-purpose and multipurpose authority, metropolitan or consolidated government, any agency of the United States government, and any similar entity of any other state or the United States.
  - (4) To make and enforce rules and regulations for its own government and proceedings and to adopt an official seal.
  - (5) To make and enter into all contracts and agreements and do and perform all acts and deeds necessary and incidental to the performance of its duties and the exercise

- of its powers, to make and execute leases or agreements for the use and occupation of necessary property on such terms, conditions and for such period as the governing body may determine, and to sell and dispose of such property on such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by resolution of the governing body and by general law.
- (6) To employ such personnel and contract with such entities as the governing body may, in its discretion, deem advisable.
- (7) To construct, install, erect and to maintain, improve, extend, or enlarge and reconstruct a water system or a sewer system or both within said district and to have the exclusive control and jurisdiction thereof.
- (8) To the extent permitted by law, borrow money and issue bonds, certificates, warrants, notes, obligations or other evidence of indebtedness to pay all or part of the cost of such construction, reconstruction, erection, acquisition or installation of such water system, sewer system or both.
- (9) To levy land assess non-ad valorem assessments within said district for the purpose of paying costs of operations, maintenance, and principal of and interest on any general obligation bonds which may be issued.
- (10) To regulate the use of sewers and the supply of water within the district.
- (11)To fix, levy, and collect rates, fees, special assessments, and other charges to persons or property or both for the use of the facilities and services provided by any water system or sewer system or both and to fix and collect charges for making connections with any such water system or sewer system and to provide for reasonable penalties on any users or property for any such rates, fees or charges that are delinquent.
- (12) To exercise exclusive jurisdiction, control and supervision over any water system or sewer system or both, or any part thereof owned, operated and maintained by the district and to make and enforce such rules and regulations for the maintenance and operation of any water system or sewer system or both as may be, in the judgment of the governing body, necessary or desirable for the efficient operation of any such systems or improvements in accomplishing the purposes stated herein.
- (13) To prescribe methods of pretreatment of industrial wastes not amenable to treatment with domestic sewage before accepting such wastes for treatment and to refuse to accept such industrial wastes when not sufficiently pretreated as may be prescribed, and by proper resolution to prescribe penalties for the refusal of any person or corporation to so pretreat such industrial wastes.
- (14) To the extent permitted by law, to provide for mandatory potable and reclaimed water and wastewater connections of potential customers located in the district or to be served by the district's facilities upon availability of service by the district.
- (15) To the extent provided by law, to require and enforce the use of services, products and facilities of the district whenever and wherever they are accessible, and to require and enforce the installation and dedication to the authority of potable and reclaimed water and wastewater facilities or easements as a condition precedent to

- the provision of service by the authority or by another entity authorized by the authority to provide interim service until authority services, products and facilities are available.
- (16) To accomplish construction directly or by letting construction contracts to other entities, whether public or private, for all or any part of the construction of improvements to the district facilities as determined by the board in accordance with applicable law.
- (17) To make and execute contracts or other instruments necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers.
- (18) To lease, as lessor or lessee, to or from any person, firm, corporation, association or body, public or private, facilities or property of any nature to carry out any of the purposes authorized by this section.
- (19) To do all acts and to exercise all of the powers necessary, convenient, incidental, implied or proper in connection with any of the powers, duties or purposes authorized by this section.

# (e) Advisory board.

- (1) The governing body of the district shall appoint, on or before May 1, 2021, a fiveperson water and sewer district advisory board.
- (2) The five-member advisory board shall be property owners from within the American Beach boundary as approved by the board of county commissioners.
- (3) The procedures for the appointment and authority of the advisory board shall be set forth in a resolution, approved by the board of county commissioners on or before May 1, 2021.
- (f) Budgeting and financial controls. The district shall comply with all applicable budgeting laws and financial reporting laws as determined by the county.
- (g) Reporting. The district shall comply with all applicable reporting requirements, as provided in F.S. ch. 189 and 218.

# (h) Prohibitions.

- (1) The district shall not have the power to levy and assess ad valorem taxes.
- (2) The district may not acquire the facilities or property of any existing public water or wastewater utility system.

#### SECTION 6. CODIFICATION.

It is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners for Nassau County that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and shall be made part of the Code of Ordinances of Nassau County, Florida. The sections of this Ordinance may be re-numbers or re-lettered and the words may be changed to section, article or other such appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intention. The Nassau County Clerk of Courts will ensure that this Ordinance is codified into, and published, as part of the Nassau County Code of Ordinances.

# **SECTION 7. CONFLICTING PROVISIONS**

All ordinances, or parts of ordinances, in conflict with the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

## **SECTION 8. SEVERABILITY.**

It is the intent of the Board of County Commissioners of Nassau County, Florida, and is hereby provided, that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not be so construed as to render invalid or unconstitutional the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

## SECTION 9. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State as provided in Florida Statutes, Section 125.66.

**DULY ADOPTED** this 25th day of August , 2025.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA

A.M. "HUPP" HUPPMANN

Its: Chairman

Attest as to Chairman's signature:

MITCH L. KEITER

Its: Ex-Officio Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM BY THE NASSAU COUNTY ATTORNEY:

DENISE C. MAY



**RON DESANTIS**Governor

**CORD BYRD**Secretary of State

September 2, 2025

Mitch L. Keiter Clerk of the Circuit Court Nassau County 76347 Veteran's Way, Suite 456 Yulee, Florida 32097

Dear Mitch L. Keiter:

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 125.66, Florida Statutes, this will acknowledge receipt of your electronic copy of Nassau County Ordinance No. 2025-030, which was filed in this office on September 2, 2025.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Leijon Administrative Code and Register Director

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