

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA, APPROVING/DENYING THE APPEAL OF JODI DAVIDSON, A LOBBYIST, REGARDING A FINE FOR LACK OF TIMELY SUBMITTAL OF LOBBYIST ANNUAL STATEMENT.

WHEREAS, the City has a registration process under Code Section 30.15 for all lobbyists; and

WHEREAS, Code Section 30.15 (B) (1) requires **all** lobbyists to register annually with the City Clerk before they can engage in any lobbying; and

WHEREAS, Code Section 30.15 (B)(2) requires the lobbyist to annually submit to the City Clerk's Office a signed statement under oath, disclosing all lobbying expenditures, contingency fees, and the sources from which funds for making such expenditures and paying such contingency fees have come, which shall be filed no later than August 31st of each year; and

WHEREAS, Jodi Davidson filed as a lobbyist with the City for the period August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, under Code Section 30.15 (B)(2), the Lobbyist Annual Statement was due in the City Clerk's Office by 5:00 P.M. on August 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk's Office did not receive the Lobbyist Annual Statement from Ms. Davidson by the deadline; and

WHEREAS, the City Clerk sent a certified letter by United States mail as directed by the Code to Ms. Davidson, which was returned; and

WHEREAS, in addition, emails sent to Ms. Davidson and phone calls made to Ms. Davidson prior to the deadline were returned or not forwarded; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Davidson tried to file a new registration on November 17, 2020 for the current year; however, she was notified that the prior year Lobbyist Annual Statement was delinquent; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Davidson filed the Annual Lobbyist Statement for the period of August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020 and was notified of the \$4,000.00 fine, which is \$50.00 for each day late up to a maximum of \$5,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Code allows for the lobbyist to file an appeal or dispute a fine, based upon unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be entitled to a hearing before the City Commission, which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part for good cause shown; and

WHEREAS, any such request shall be made within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due, in which case the lobbyist shall, within the 20 day period, notify the City Clerk in writing of her intention to bring an appeal before the City Commission; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Davidson has filed an appeal with the City Clerk within the 20 day time period.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF HOLLYWOOD, FLORIDA:

Section 1: That the foregoing "WHEREAS" clauses are ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are incorporated in this Resolution.

Section 2: That the City Commission approves/denies the appeal of Jodi Davidson for the waiving of the \$4,000.00 fine for the delinquent Lobbyist Annual Statement for the period of August 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2021.

ATTEST:

JOSH LEVY, MAYOR

PATRICIA A. CERNY, MMC
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL
SUFFICIENCY for the use and reliance
of the City of Hollywood, Florida, only.

DOUGLAS R. GONZALES
CITY ATTORNEY