

OPERATING BUDGET ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 9849-25

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, ADOPTING AN OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2025, AND ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 2026; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ISSUE SUCH INSTRUCTIONS THAT ARE NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE AND ACCOMPLISH THE SERVICE PROGRAMS SO AUTHORIZED; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO TRANSFER MONIES AND PROGRAMS AMONG THE DEPARTMENTS AND ACTIVITIES WITHIN ANY FUND AS PROVIDED BY CHAPTER 2 OF THE CLEARWATER CODE OF ORDINANCES; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City Manager has submitted an estimate of the expenditures necessary to carry on the City government for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026; and

WHEREAS, an estimate of the revenues to be received by the City during said period from ad valorem taxes and other sources has been submitted to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, a general summary of the operating budget, and notice of the times and places where copies of the budget message and operating budget are available for inspection by the public, was published in a newspaper of general circulation; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has examined and carefully considered the proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Clearwater Code of Ordinances, the City Council conducted a public hearing on September 3, 2025, upon said budget and tax levy; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA;

Section 1. Pursuant to the City Manager's Annual Budget Report for the fiscal year beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026, a copy of which is on file with the City Clerk, the City Council hereby adopts a budget for the operation of the City, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A, and a summary of which is attached as Exhibit B.

Section 2. The budget as adopted shall stand and be the budget of the City for said fiscal year, subject to the authority of the City Council to amend or change the budget as provided by Section 2.519 of the Clearwater Code of Ordinances.

Section 3. The City Manager is authorized and directed to issue such instructions and directives that are necessary to achieve and accomplish the service programs authorized by the adoption of this budget.

Section 4. The City Manager is authorized for reasons of economy or efficiency to transfer part or all of any unencumbered appropriation balance among programs within an operating fund, provided such action does not result in the discontinuance of a program.

Section 5. It is the intent of the City Council that this budget, including amendments thereto, is adopted to permit the legal appropriation and encumbering of funds for the purposes set forth in the budget. All appropriated and encumbered but unexpended funds at the end of the fiscal year may be expended during the subsequent fiscal year for the purposes for which they were appropriated and encumbered. It shall be necessary to appropriate funds in the budget for the subsequent fiscal year to cover valid open encumbrances outstanding as of the end of the current fiscal year.

Section 6. Should any provision of this ordinance be declared by any court to be invalid, the same shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole, or any provision thereof, other than the provision declared to be invalid.

Section 7. This ordinance shall take effect October 1, 2025.

PASSED ON FIRST READING

PASSED ON SECOND AND FINAL
READING AND ADOPTED

Bruce Rector
Mayor

Approved as to form:

Attest:

David Margolis
City Attorney

Rosemarie Call
City Clerk