

**RESOLUTION NO. 21- 34**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PINELLAS COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS APPROVING A HISTORIC PRESERVATION AD VALOREM TAX EXEMPTION FOR THE JONES-LAUGHNER RESIDENCE, LOCATED AT 556 BEACH DRIVE NORTHEAST, A LOCAL HISTORIC LANDMARK LISTED IN THE ST. PETERSBURG REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES AND A CONTRIBUTING PROPERTY IN THE NORTH SHORE NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT; APPROVING EXECUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION COVENANT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners recognizes and values historic properties located in the County with protection of and reinvestment in these historic properties being in the public interest and essential to the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Pinellas County; and

**WHEREAS**, the citizens of Florida have amended Article VII, Section 3(d) of the Florida Constitution to authorize counties and municipalities to allow historic preservation ad valorem tax exemptions for owners of eligible historic properties who make significant improvements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Florida Legislature has enacted Section 196.1997, Florida Statutes, to govern the allowance of such ad valorem tax exemptions made to eligible historic properties which result from restoration, renovation, or rehabilitation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of County Commissioners adopted the Pinellas County Historic Property Tax Exemption Ordinance (Chapter 118, Article V, Pinellas County Code) in January 1996 providing for ad valorem tax exemptions ten (10) years in duration on improvements made to a designated historic property which result from the restoration, renovation, or rehabilitation of said property in unincorporated areas and in municipalities that have adopted a historic preservation tax exemption ordinance within their jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Petersburg has adopted a historic preservation ad valorem tax exemption ordinance (Section 16.30.070.4 of the City Code) on July 21, 1994, providing its residents with financial incentives to preserve the City's historic properties; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St Petersburg is recognized as a Certified Local Government in good standing by the Florida Department of State, Division of Historical Resources as authorized

under the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and, therefore, staff with the Planning & Development Services Department for the City of St. Petersburg shall be considered the Local Preservation Office for the purposes of administering the provisions of this ad valorem tax exemption as allowed under 196.1997, Florida Statutes in coordination with the Pinellas County Housing & Community Development Department; and

**WHEREAS**, the Jones-Laughner residence, 556 Beach Drive Northeast, is located within the corporate limits of the City of St. Petersburg; has been designated as a local historic landmark by the City of St. Petersburg; and is a contributing property in the North Shore National Register Historic District; and

**WHEREAS**, the property at 556 Beach Drive Northeast, a designated local historic landmark and contributing property in the North Shore National Register Historic District, is comprised essentially of grounds, collateral, appurtenances, and improvements more particularly described as being located on the following land parcel:

BAY SHORE REV BLK 10, N 50 FT OF LOT 1 & VAC 10 FT ALLEY ADJ ON W OF SD N  
50 FT OF LOT 1 TOGETHER WITH W ½ OF S 77 FT OF VAC ALLEY ADJ TO LOT 3,  
and further identified by the Pinellas County Property Appraiser as parcel number:

17-31-17-04842-010-0010; and

**WHEREAS**, according to public record this property is presently owned by Peter Ford and Lani Ford; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of St. Petersburg has reviewed and approved the historic preservation ad valorem tax exemption application (AVT 16-90400004) submitted by the property owner and has verified that the improvements were completed by the property owner consistent with the application; and

**WHEREAS**, the St. Petersburg City Council has approved the request for an exemption of the ad valorem taxes levied by the city for a ten (10) year period for one hundred percent (100%) of the value of said improvements made to the property as authorized in Resolution No.# 2021-134 adopted on April 8, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the information contained in the staff report and resolution from the City of St. Petersburg has been verified by the Pinellas County Housing & Community Development Department and demonstrates that the improvements made to 556 Beach Drive Northeast meet all criteria for issuing the ad valorem tax exemption as described in Chapter 118 of the Pinellas County Code; and

**WHEREAS**, the exemption of ad valorem taxes levied by Pinellas County shall be for one hundred percent (100%) of the value of said improvements made to the property located at 556 Beach Drive Northeast for a ten (10) year period effective from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2030.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FOR PINELLAS COUNTY, FLORIDA**, in regular session duly assembled this 8th day of June 2021, hereby finds that this application for historic preservation ad valorem tax exemption meets the requirements set forth in Chapter 118, Pinellas County Code and, therefore, approves the ad valorem tax exemption for 556 Beach Drive Northeast, St. Petersburg, a local historic landmark designated by the City of St. Petersburg and a contributing property in the North Shore National Register Historic District, for a ten (10) year period at one hundred percent (100%) of the assessed value of improvements made to the property as a result of its restoration, renovation, and rehabilitation, effective as of January 1, 2021, subject to receipt of a certified copy of the recorded covenant within 120 days of the approval of the Board of County Commissioners or said approval shall be void; and hereby approves execution of the historic preservation tax exemption covenant on behalf of the County.

This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Commissioner Seel offered the foregoing Resolution and moved its adoption, which was seconded by Commissioner Peters, and upon roll call the vote was:

AYES: Eggers, Justice, Flowers, Gerard, Peters, and Seel.

NAYS: None.

Absent and not voting: Long.

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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By: David S. Sadowsky

Office of the County Attorney

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