

ORDINANCE 23-__

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE CODE OF ORDINANCES TITLE III, CHAPTER 36, ARTICLE I, ENTITLED "GENERAL PROVISIONS," INCREASING THE FEES CHARGED BY THE LIEN SERVICES DIVISION FOR LIEN SEARCHES; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Lien Services Division frequently receives requests for lien searches regarding real property located in the City of Port St. Lucie; and

WHEREAS, the normal processing time for providing a lien search is three (3) to five (5) business days from the date of the request; and

WHEREAS, the Lien Services Division currently charges a fee of \$50.00 for a lien search to offset its administrative time and costs; and

WHEREAS, the Lien Services Division has proposed and the City Manager has approved increasing the lien search fee to \$80.00 and offering an expedited processing time for a fee of \$160.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. Ratification of Recitals. The foregoing recitals are hereby ratified and confirmed as true and correct and are hereby made a part of this Ordinance.

Section 2. Amending Section 36.03 of the Code of Ordinances. Section 36.03 of the Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

~~The Lien Services Division shall impose a fee of \$50 for work performed in providing a lien search.~~ The Lien Services Division shall charge fees for conducting lien searches based on the timeframe requested. If a lien search is requested to be conducted within three (3) to five (5) business days of the initial request, a fee of \$80 will be imposed. Additionally, the Lien Services Division is authorized, but not required, to offer expedited lien searches to be completed within one (1) to two (2) business days. For this expedited service, a rush fee of \$160 will be imposed.

Each lien search provides the requester with information regarding outstanding municipal debts assessed on a specific City property through a utility account, including Capital Charge Agreements, delinquent service

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charges, water and sewer loan payoffs, building department liens, code compliance liens, nuisance abatement liens, unimproved property liens, vacant property registration liens, contractor’s license liens, solid waste liens, or community services mortgage liens. Should there be an outstanding municipal debt, payments, satisfactions and releases of liens may be processed by the Lien Services Division.

Section 3. Conflict. If any ordinances or parts of ordinances are in conflict herewith, this Ordinance shall control to the extent of the conflicting provisions.

Section 4. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are intended to be severable. If any provision of this Ordinance is determined to be void or is declared illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by a Court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 5. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall become October 1, 2023.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida, this ____ day of _____, 2023.

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE

By: _____
Shannon M. Martin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sally Walsh, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By: _____
James D. Stokes, City Attorney