

ORDINANCE 09-44

AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE EAST LAKE PARK SPECIAL DEPENDENT DISTRICT, AMENDING HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY ORDINANCE 98-53; PROVIDING FOR THE DELETION OF THE POSITIONS OF RECORDING SECRETARY AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY; PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF THE POSITION OF SECRETARY; PROVIDING FOR THE DELETION OF APPROVAL BY BOCC OF BONDS EXECUTED BY DISTRICT BOARD OFFICERS; PROVIDING FOR A DATE FOR TAKING OFFICE; PROVIDING FOR THE ABILITY OF THE DISTRICT TO FOREGO AN ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; PROVIDING FOR NOTICES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS TO BE ADVERTISED 14 DAYS PRIOR TO THE HEARING; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida created the East Lake Park Special Dependent District, and established by Ordinance the boundaries of the District;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend provisions relating to the secretarial positions of the district board;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend provisions relating to BOCC approval of the bonds required by certain district board officers;

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend provisions relating to the requirement of the district board to submit an annual audited financial statement; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to amend provisions relating to the time period for advertising notices of public hearings.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, FLORIDA, THIS 20th DAY OF May, 2009, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 3 of the Hillsborough County Ordinance 98-53 is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 3. The business and affairs of the district shall be conducted and administered by a board of seven trustees, hereinafter referred to as the "trustees", who shall be elected for 4-year terms of office in even numbered years. After the first and second regular elections, trustees shall serve four year terms as provided herein. After each election of trustees, the trustees shall organize by electing from their members a president, a vice-president, a secretary, and a treasurer. At the same time they shall establish and publish in a newspaper of general circulation, a regular monthly meeting date, time, and place which shall be adhered to. Five trustees shall constitute a quorum, and a majority of that quorum shall be required for the passage of any resolution coming under consideration by the board of trustees. No meeting of the district board, nor any discussion of district business among the trustees, shall take place without a quorum present. The trustees shall not be entitled to compensation for their services, but shall be entitled to be reimbursed from the funds of the district for any authorized disbursements they may properly incur on behalf of the district. The president, vice-president, and the treasurer shall be the only trustees authorized to execute checks and documents on behalf of the district. Such trustees authorized to sign checks of the district or otherwise designated to handle its funds shall, before they enter upon such duties, execute to the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County for the benefit of the district, a

good and sufficient bond in the sum of \$5,000 with a qualified corporate surety conditioned to faithfully perform the duties of such trustees and to account for all funds which may come into their hands as such trustees. All premiums for such surety on all bonds shall be paid from funds of the district.

SECTION 2. Section 4 of the Hillsborough County Ordinance 98-53 is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 4.

Elections shall be held at one or more polling places designated for the district by the Supervisor of Elections. The election will be held in conjunction with the first primary election as designated in Section 100.061, Florida Statutes or any amended or successor statute. Trustees shall run on a non-partisan basis. At each election, trustees shall be elected for a term of 4 years with said term beginning on October 1st after each election. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast shall be declared elected to fill the number of vacancies to be filled on the board and shall receive a certificate of election from the Supervisor of Elections. If two persons receive an equal and highest number of votes for the last position to be filled, such persons shall draw lots to determine who shall be elected to the office. Each trustee shall serve until his successor is duly elected and qualified. Elections shall be held between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and shall be conducted and supervised by the Supervisor of Elections of Hillsborough County. All matters relating to the calling, conduct, and regulation of elections not provided for in this ordinance shall be governed by the state election code.

✓ All qualified electors residing within the district shall be eligible to vote prior to the closing of the registration books for such election. All election ballots shall be prepared

by the Supervisor of Elections. The Canvassing Board shall canvass the returns of the election and shall announce the results upon completion of the count. The necessary and proper costs of holding, conducting, and regulating such elections and referendums, including compensation for inspectors, clerks, and other employees required therefore shall be fixed by the Supervisor of Elections with the approval of the board of trustees and shall be paid by the district.

SECTION 3. Section 11 of the Hillsborough County Ordinance 98-53, as amended, is amended to read as follows:

SECTION 11.

(1) The fiscal year of the district shall commence October 1.

(2) Financial Reporting:

(a) The Trustees shall, before November 30 of each year, prepare a financial statement for the prior fiscal year on forms and to standards prescribed by the County. The financial statement shall be submitted to the County's Clerk of the Circuit Court by November 30th.

(b) Beginning in FY 2009, if the district board determines during the process of adopting the budget for the next fiscal year that the total of current fiscal year's actual revenues (not including funds actually carried over from the previous year to the current fiscal year) is \$50,000 or more, it shall submit an audited financial statement to the Clerk of the Circuit Court on which a financial audit has been conducted as specified in subsection (d) of this section.

(c) While the County encourages the district to have its annual financial statement audited, if, during the process described in (b), the amount of current

fiscal year's revenues as determined by the district board is less than \$50,000, the district board may vote to prepare an unaudited financial statement for that year on forms and to standards prescribed by the County. In order to prepare and submit an unaudited financial statement, the district board must (1) send a letter by first class mail to each property owner in the district and to the County informing them that the district board has chosen not to have the financial statement for the current fiscal year audited; (2) the letters must be postmarked no later than September 30th. The County will provide the district with a sample standard letter which the district will use. If the district does not send the standard letter by September 30th, the district will be required to submit to the Clerk of the Circuit Court an audited financial statement by November 30th. (d) The preparation of an audited financial statement shall conform with generally accepted government auditing standards, pursuant to Chapter 10.550, *Rules of the Auditor General* and §11.45, Florida Statutes. The audit must be performed by an independent Certified Public Accountant holding an active license issued by the Florida Board of Accountancy and with current continuing education in government auditing.

(3) Budgets:

(a) ✓ On or before July 1 of each year, the district board shall prepare and adopt by resolution an itemized budget on forms and to standards prescribed by the County. ✓ The budget will show the amount of revenues, including estimated fund balance and expenditures (including transfers and reserves), necessary for the operation of the district in the next fiscal year and the non-ad valorem assessment rate to be levied on the tax roll to support that budget. ✓ Prior to the adoption of the budget, the trustees shall hold a public hearing at which time the public may appear and be heard. Beginning May,

2009, notice of the time and place of the public hearing shall be published once in a newspaper of general circulation within Hillsborough County at least 14 calendar days prior to the public hearing.

(b) Each year, the trustees of the district shall submit the budget it adopted pursuant to paragraph (a) above to the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County for approval. The Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County may increase or decrease the budget on a line-by-line basis or in total and adjust the non-ad valorem assessment rate for that fiscal year. The assessment set by the trustees of the district shall not be set at a rate in excess of that required by the budget of the district as approved by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County.

SECTION 4. SEVERABILITY

If any section, sentence, clause, phrase, or provision of this ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby, but shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE

The provisions of this ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the office of the Secretary of State.

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH

I, Pat Frank, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Ex Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County, Florida do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Ordinance adopted by the Board at its meeting of May 20, 2009, as the same appears of record in Minute Book 396, of the Public Records of Hillsborough County, Florida.

WITNESS my hand and official seal this 22nd day of May, 2009.

PAT FRANK, CLERK

BY: Marian K. DeLo
Deputy Clerk

APPROVED BY COUNTY ATTORNEY
As To Form and Legal Sufficiency

BY: [Signature]
Senior Assistant County Attorney

