## **RESOLUTION 13-2024**

## A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA, REVISING THE FEE SCHEDULE ADOPTED VIA RESOLUTIONS 2003-29 AND 06-2024 TO UPDATE THE FEES CHARGED FOR BUILDING PERMITS, PLAN REVIEWS, AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY PRIVATE PROVIDERS; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICTS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Seminole provides services to residents, non-residents, and owners of real property lying within its municipal limits, as well as to businesses and owners of structures within the City, including but not limited to building code inspection services as defined by § 553.791, Fla. Stat.; and

**WHEREAS,** the City is authorized by Florida law and its Charter and Code to assess fees to recover its expenses in providing such services; and

**WHEREAS,** the City Council previously adopted Resolution 2003-29 and Resolution 06-2024 establishing the fee schedules for building, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, gas, fire permit, and reinspection fees associated with the operation of the City's Building Division; and

WHEREAS, the City has reviewed the time and expense involved in providing certain services; and

**WHEREAS,** section 553.791, Fla. Stat., requires reduced permit fees if an owner or contractor retains a private provider for the purposes of plan review or building inspection services; and

WHEREAS, section 553.791, Fla. Stat., allows local jurisdictions to charge an administrative fee for privately provided services; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 24, 2024, the Governor of the State of Florida entered an Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency for 64 counties in the State of Florida, including Pinellas County, due to the dangers presented by Hurricane Helene; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 5, 2024, the Governor of the State of Florida also entered Executive Order declaring a State of Emergency for 35 counties in the State of Florida, including Pinellas County, due to the dangers presented by Hurricane Milton; and

WHEREAS, Hurricanes Helene and Milton posed serious threats to the lives and property of City residents and a State of Local Emergency was declared for all territory within its legal boundaries; and

WHEREAS, both Hurricanes Helene and Milton caused extensive damage to public utilities, public buildings, public communications systems, public streets and roads, public drainage systems, commercial and residential buildings and areas; and

WHEREAS, City staff has reviewed the aforementioned fee schedules and has recommended revisions to provide homeowners and business owners relief from the normal

building permit fees; and **WHEREAS**, based upon staff recommendation, the City Council desires and intends to update its building permit fee schedule on a temporary and retroactive basis to assist property owners recovering from Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton; and

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA:

<u>Section 1</u>. Fees for building permits, plan review, and services performed by private providers shall be charged at the rates listed in Exhibit A, attached to and made part of this Resolution. Property owners who have obtained building permits since September 26, 2024 shall be eligible for refund of fees paid to the City for building permits and plan review upon a demonstration of evidence satisfactory to the building official that such permits or plan review were obtained in recovery of Hurricane Helene or Hurricane Milton.

Section 2. All other fees set forth in Resolution 2003-29 and Resolution 06-2024 shall remain unchanged.

Section 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances, resolutions, or parts of resolutions which are in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed to the extent necessary to alleviate the conflict, but shall continue in effect insofar as they are not in conflict herewith.

Section 4. This Resolution shall become effective December 4, 2024.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEMINOLE, FLORIDA, THIS 3 DAY OF December, 2024.

ATTEST: un Marie Mancuso

Ann Marie Mancuso, CMC City Clerk

Leslie Waters, Mavor Approved as to form: Jay Daigneault, City Attorney

