

RESOLUTION 2023-__07__

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE EPPERSON NORTH COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT IMPOSING ANNUALLY RECURRING OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE NON-AD VALOREM SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT OF ALL DISTRICT SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS; CERTIFYING AN ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENT OF THE ASSESSMENT ROLL; PROVIDING FOR CHALLENGES AND PROCEDURAL IRREGULARITIES; APPROVING THE FORM OF A BUDGET FUNDING AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Epperson North Community Development District (“**District**”) is a local unit of special-purpose government established pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes for the purpose of providing, preserving, operating, and maintaining infrastructure improvements, facilities, and services to the lands within the District;

WHEREAS, the District is located in Pasco County, Florida (“**County**”);

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the District (“**Board**”) hereby determines to undertake various activities described in the District’s adopted budget for fiscal year 2023-2024 attached hereto as **Exhibit A (“FY 2023-2024 Budget”)** and incorporated as a material part of this Resolution by this reference;

WHEREAS, the District must obtain sufficient funds to provide for the activities described in the FY 2023-2024 Budget;

WHEREAS, the provision of the activities described in the FY 2023-2024 Budget is a benefit to lands within the District;

WHEREAS, the District may impose non-ad valorem special assessments on benefited lands within the District pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes;

WHEREAS, such special assessments may be placed on the County tax roll and collected by the local Tax Collector (“**Uniform Method**”) pursuant to Chapters 190 and 197, Florida Statutes;

WHEREAS, the District has, by resolution and public notice, previously evidenced its intention to utilize the Uniform Method;

WHEREAS, the District has approved an agreement with the County Property Appraiser (“**Property Appraiser**”) and County Tax Collector (“**Tax Collector**”) to provide for the collection of special assessments under the Uniform Method;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the District to proceed with the imposition, levy, and collection of the annually recurring operations and maintenance non-ad valorem special assessments on all assessable lands in the amount contained for each parcel's portion of the FY 2023-2024 Budget ("**O&M Assessments**");

WHEREAS, the Board desires to collect the annual installment for the previously levied debt service non-ad valorem special assessments ("**Debt Assessments**") in the amounts shown in the FY 2023-2024 Budget;

WHEREAS, the District adopted an assessment roll as maintained in the office of the District Manager, available for review, and incorporated as a material part of this Resolution by this reference ("**Assessment Roll**");

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the District to certify a portion of the Assessment Roll on the parcels designated in the Assessment Roll to the Tax Collector pursuant to the Uniform Method and to directly collect a portion of the Assessment Roll on the parcels designated in the Assessment Roll through the direct collection method pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes;

WHEREAS, it is in the best interests of the District to permit the District Manager to amend the Assessment Roll, including the property certified to the Tax Collector by this Resolution, as the Property Appraiser updates the property roll, for such time as authorized by Florida law; and

WHEREAS, **Epperson North LLC**, a Delaware limited liability company ("**Developer**") is the developer of certain lands within the District, agrees to make available to the District monies necessary for the operation of the District, as called for in the FY 2023 - 2024 budget. The monies to be funded by the Developer will be the difference between any actual on-roll and other non-off roll revenues received by the District minus the actual expenditures incurred by the District and will be provided on an "as needed" basis only pursuant to a budget funding agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD:

Section 1. Benefit from Activities and O&M Assessments. The provision of the activities described in the FY 2023-2024 Budget confer a special and peculiar benefit to the lands within the District, which benefits exceed or equal the O&M Assessments allocated to such lands. The allocation of the expenses of the activities to the specially benefited lands is shown in the FY 2023-2024 Budget and in the Assessment Roll.

Section 2. O&M Assessments Imposition. Pursuant to Chapter 190, Florida Statutes and procedures authorized by Florida law for the levy and collection of special assessments, the O&M Assessments are hereby imposed and levied on benefited lands within the District in accordance with the FY 2023-2024 Budget and Assessment Roll. The lien of the O&M Assessments imposed and levied by this Resolution shall be effective upon passage of this Resolution.

Section 3. Collection and Enforcement of District Assessments.

- a. **Uniform Method for certain Debt Assessments and certain O&M Assessments.** The collection of the Debt Assessments and O&M Assessments on certain lands designated for collection using the Uniform Method as described in the Assessment Roll, shall be at the same time and in the same manner as County taxes in accordance with the Uniform Method. All assessments collected by the Tax Collector shall be due, payable, and enforced pursuant to Chapter 197, Florida Statutes.
- b. **Direct Bill for Certain Debt Assessments.**
- i. The Debt Assessments on undeveloped and unplatted lands will be collected directly by the District in accordance with Florida law, as set forth in the Assessment Roll.
 - ii. Debt Assessments directly collected by the District are due in full on December 1, 2023; provided, however, that, to the extent permitted by law, the Debt Assessments due may be paid in several partial, deferred payments and according to the following schedule:
 1. 50% due no later than December 1, 2023
 2. 25% due no later than February 1, 2024
 3. 25% due no later than May 1, 2024
 - iii. In the event that a Debt Assessment payment is not made in accordance with the schedule stated above, the whole Debt Assessment – including any remaining partial or deferred payments for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 as well as any future installments of the Debt Assessment – shall immediately become due and payable. Such Debt Assessment shall accrue interest (at the applicable rate of any bonds or other debt instruments secured by the Debt Assessment), statutory penalties in the amount of 1% per month, and all costs of collection and enforcement. Such Debt Assessment shall either be enforced pursuant to a foreclosure action, or, at the District's sole discretion, collected pursuant to the Uniform Method on a future tax bill, which amount may include penalties, interest, and costs of collection and enforcement.
 - iv. In the event a Debt Assessment subject to direct collection by the District shall be delinquent, the District Manager and District Counsel, without further authorization by the Board, may initiate foreclosure proceedings pursuant to Chapter 170, Florida Statutes or other applicable law to collect and enforce the whole assessment, as set forth herein.
- c. **Direct Bill for Certain O&M Assessments.**
- i. The O&M Assessments on certain lands (as designated for direct collection in the Assessment Roll) will be collected directly by the District in accordance with Florida law, as set forth in the Assessment Roll.
 - ii. O&M Assessments directly collected by the District are due in full on December 1, 2023; provided, however, that, to the extent permitted by law, the O&M Assessments due may be paid in several partial, deferred payments and according to the following schedule:
 1. 50% due no later than December 1, 2023
 2. 25% due no later than February 1, 2024
 3. 25% due no later than April 1, 2024

iii. In the event that an O&M Assessment payment is not made in accordance with the schedule stated above, the whole O&M Assessment may immediately become due and payable. Such O&M Assessment shall accrue statutory penalties in the amount of 1% per month and all costs of collection and enforcement. Such O&M Assessment shall either be enforced pursuant to a foreclosure action, or, at the District's sole discretion, collected pursuant to the Uniform Method on a future tax bill, which amount may include penalties and costs of collection and enforcement.

d. **Future Collection Methods.** The decision to collect special assessments by any particular method – e.g., on the tax roll or by direct bill – does not mean that such method will be used to collect special assessments in future years, and the District reserves the right in its sole discretion to select collection methods in any given year, regardless of past practices.

Section 4. Certification of Assessment Roll. The Assessment Roll is hereby certified and authorized to be transmitted to the Tax Collector.

Section 5. Assessment Roll Amendment. The District Manager shall keep apprised of all updates made to the County property roll by the Property Appraiser after the date of this Resolution and shall amend the Assessment Roll in accordance with any such updates, for such time as authorized by Florida law. After any amendment of the Assessment Roll, the District Manager shall file the updates to the tax roll in the District records.

Section 6. Assessment Challenges. The adoption of this Resolution shall be the final determination of all issues related to the O&M Assessments as it relates to property owners whose benefited property is subject to the O&M Assessments (including, but not limited to, the determination of special benefit and fair apportionment to the assessed property, the method of apportionment, the maximum rate of the O&M Assessments, and the levy, collection, and lien of the O&M Assessments), unless proper steps shall be initiated in a court of competent jurisdiction to secure relief within 30 days from adoption date of this Resolution.

Section 7. Procedural Irregularities. Any informality or irregularity in the proceedings in connection with the levy of the O&M Assessments shall not affect the validity of the same after the adoption of this Resolution, and any O&M Assessments as finally approved shall be competent and sufficient evidence that such O&M Assessment was duly levied, that the O&M Assessment was duly made and adopted, and that all other proceedings adequate to such O&M Assessment were duly had, taken, and performed as required.

Section 8. Approving the Form of a Budget Funding Agreement with Developer. The Budget Funding Agreement between the District and Developer attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is hereby approved in substantial form. The Chair or the Vice-Chair of the Board are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver said agreement on behalf of and in the name of the District. The Secretary or any Assistant Secretary of the Board are hereby authorized to attest such execution. Any additions, deletions or modifications

may be made and approved by the Chair or the Vice-Chair and their execution of the agreement shall be conclusive evidence of such approval.

Section 9. Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any one or more provisions of this Resolution shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining portions of this Resolution, or any part thereof.

Section 10. Effective Date. This Resolution shall take effect upon the passage and adoption of this Resolution by the Board.

Passed and Adopted on August 3, 2023.

Attested By:

**Epperson North
Community Development District**


Print Name: Heather Dille
Secretary/Assistant Secretary



Print Name: Mike Lawson
Chair/Vice Chair of the Board of Supervisors

Exhibit A: FY 2023-2024 Budget

Exhibit B: Form of Budget Funding Agreement with Developer