RESOLUTION No. 23-227

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS WITH THE LAW FIRM OF LEWIS LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A. FOR THE PROVISION OF SPECIAL PENSION AND PUBLIC BENEFITS COUNSEL SERVICES AND SPECIALIZED LEGAL ADVISORY SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF DORAL IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000.00; PROVIDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on February 10, 2021, the City Council for the City of Doral ("City") adopted Ordinance No. 2021-02, which created a retirement system for elected officials, titled "City of Doral City Elected Officials Retirement Plan," which was subsequently codified in Article IX of Chapter 2 of the City's Code of Ordinances (the "Ordinance" or the "Plan"); and

WHEREAS, on February 8, 2023, pursuant to Resolution No. 23-28 the City Council authorized the retention of special pension counsel, Lewis Longman & Walker P.A. ("LLW") to perform an independent review of the Ordinance, and to provide an opinion as to whether the Plan was adopted, funded, and maintained in accordance with Florida law, and further authorizing compensation to LLW in an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the aforementioned resolution, LLW prepared a report, entitled "Elected Officials' Retirement Plan – Summary of Initial Findings," dated April 4, 2023 (the "Report"); and

WHEREAS, on April 12, 2023, the Report findings were presented to the City Council, and by unanimous vote of the City Council, a motion was approved recommending that the Plan's Administrative Committee take action to suspend

payments under the Plan, and directing the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance repealing the Plan; and

WHEREAS, since April of 2023, LLW has continued to provide legal counsel to the City and the City Attorneys office, necessitated by the City Council's repeal of the Plan on June 14, 2023, and ensuing litigation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the ongoing need for special pension counsel services, additional funding is needed in the amount of \$30,000.00 for LLW, thereby bringing the new total not to exceed amount for LLW to \$50,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

<u>Section 1.</u> Recitals. The above recitals are confirmed, adopted, and incorporated herein and made as part hereof by this reference.

Section 2. Approval. The City of Doral hereby authorizes an increase in expenditure with the law firm of Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A., for the provision of special pension counsel services in an amount of \$30,000.00, thereby bringing the new total not to exceed amount for the firm to \$50,000.00.

<u>Section 3.</u> <u>Authorization.</u> The Mayor and City Council of the City of Doral, Florida hereby authorize the City Manager to expend funds in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00 from Account, # 001.30005.500312.

<u>Section 4.</u> <u>Effective Date.</u> This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

The foregoing Resolution was offered by Councilmember Pineyro who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Porras and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Mayor Christi Fraga	Yes
Vice Mayor Oscar Puig-Corve	Yes
Councilwoman Digna Cabral	Yes
Councilman Rafael Pineyro	Yes
Councilwoman Maureen Porras	Yes

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 6 day of December, 2023.

CHRISTI FRÅGA, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CONNIE DIAZ, MMC

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE CITY OF DORAL ONLY:

VALERIE VICENTE, ESQ. for

NABORS, GIBLIN & NICKERSON, P.A.

CITY ATTORNEY