

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THAT CERTAIN SPOUSES OF ELIGIBLE RETIRED MEMBERS OF THE NORTH LITTLE ROCK FIREMEN’S PENSION AND RELIEF FUND ARE ENTITLED TO BENEFITS UNDER THE PLAN PROVIDED THAT SAID RETIRED MEMBERS HAVE MARRIED AFTER RETIREMENT AND HAVE BEEN MARRIED FOR AT LEAST FIVE (5) YEARS TO THE SPOUSE; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, on July 18, 1994, the Board of Trustees of the North Little Rock Firemen’s Pension and Relief Fund (“Relief Fund”) elected to have its eligible members covered under the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Department System (“LOPFI”), designating the City of North Little Rock to act as agent for the administration of its retirement coverage for all eligible Relief Fund participants under LOPFI; and

WHEREAS, Ark. Code Ann. § 24-11-820(b)(5) provides for entitlement of certain benefits for spouses of retired firefighters who marry after his/her retirement and have been married for five (5) years; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to authorize LOPFI to provide for said benefits for those eligible retired members of the Relief Fund under LOPFI.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1: That the Arkansas Local Police and Fire Department System (“LOPFI”) shall provide certain benefits for spouses of those eligible retired members of the North Little Rock Firemen’s Pension and Relief Fund as provided for pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 24-11-820(b)(5). That the spouse of the retired firefighter may only be eligible for said benefit provided that said spouse was married to the fire fighter after his or her retirement for a period of at least five (5) years and the pension fund will be actuarially sound as determined by the actuary for the Arkansas Fire and Police Pension Review Board after this benefit increase is extended to eligible members.

SECTION 2: That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

SECTION 3: That the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable, and if any section, phrase or provision shall be declared or held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect the remainder of the sections, phrases or provisions.

SECTION 4: It is hereby found and determined that the immediate passage of this Ordinance is necessary in order to insure the proper and orderly growth of this land and the City of North Little Rock, Arkansas, and being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, safety and welfare; THEREFORE, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED:

SPONSOR:

Alderman Cary Gaines

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

C. Jason Carter, City Attorney

PREPARED BY THE OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY/b

APPROVED:

Mayor Patrick H. Hays

ATTEST:

Diane Whitbey, City Clerk