

**CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA
RESOLUTION 2025-33**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA INDICATING TO THE MONROE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS (BOCC) ITS INTENT TO CONTINUE PARTICIPATION IN THE MIDDLE KEYS HEALTH CARE MUNICIPAL SERVICE TAXING UNIT (MSTU) ONLY IF THE CURRENT MILLAGE RATE IS RESET BY THE BOCC AT A LEVEL THAT WILL GENERATE THE NECESSARY REVENUE TO SATISFY, BUT NOT EXCEED, THE REMAINING FINANCIAL COMMITMENT UNDER THE MSTU AGREEMENT (\$15 MILLION); AND PROVIDING THAT THE FINAL MILLAGE RATE SHALL BE DETERMINED BASED ON THE ASSESSED PROPERTY VALUES PROVIDED BY THE PROPERTY APPRAISER'S OFFICE IN JULY 2025; AND PROVIDING FOR THE TRANSMITTAL OF THIS RESOLUTION TO APPROPRIATE MEMBERS OF MONROE COUNTY STAFF, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, in 2019, the City of Marathon entered into an agreement known as the Middle Keys Health Care Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU); and

WHEREAS, for the purposes sought and in order to assist Baptist Hospital with the redevelopment of Fisherman's Community Hospital, the County under its authority created the MSTU; and

WHEREAS, the attached MOU provides current and new procedures for such Rendering based on the Department's termination of the previous MOU effective March 3, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the City agreed to be taxed through the MSTU for an amount of up to fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000) over a period of up to ten years; and

WHEREAS, the City passed a complimentary Ordinance. As part of the City's Ordinance, the City must agree to either continue the MSTU each year or request that the County rescind that portion of the MSTU which includes the City; and

WHEREAS, if the City votes to terminate the MSTU, they must do it by Ordinance. The entirety of the City's agreement to the County's MSTU is found in Chapter 28 Taxation / Article 28-1 In General / Section 28- 1 through Section 28-4; and

WHEREAS, each year since 2019, the City Council has reviewed the Ordinance and agreed to its continuation. As we approach this year (2025), the MSTU has been very effective at a rate of 0.5 mils to collect nearly all of the \$15 Million; and

WHEREAS, the MSTU is estimated to only require \$896,111.01 this coming year to meet the intent and obligation under the Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, as the MSTU has typically collected approximately \$2 Million annually, the millage of 0.5 is not necessary to collect the remaining amount; and

WHEREAS, the Council has at least two choices (two offered here);

1. Request that the County rescind that portion of their Ordinance which includes the City of Marathon from further collection under the MSTU, or
2. Request that the County reduce by Ordinance the current millage to an amount which would only generate the approximate amount of \$896,111.01; and

WHEREAS, the City believes that the reduction in millage would be approximately 1/3 of that required and adopted currently. However, this number cannot accurately be determined until the 2025-2026 tax roll amounts are available in June or early July 2025; and

WHEREAS, by majority vote, the City Council has elected to continue the City's participation in the MSTU,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, THAT:

Section 1. The above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein.

Section 2. Staff transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) indicating its intent to continue participation in the Middle Keys Health Care Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) ONLY if the current millage rate is reset by the BOCC at a level that will generate the necessary revenue to satisfy, but not exceed, the remaining financial commitment under the MSTU agreement (\$15 million). Said final millage is understood to be provided by the Monroe County Property Appraiser (MCPA) to the BOCC based on the assessed property values provided by the MCPA office in July 2025.

Section 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon the signature of both parties.

Section 4. The City Clerk is directed to transmit this Resolution to Monroe County for their use and deliberations.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, THIS 31ST DAY OF MARCH, 2025.

THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA

Lynn Landry, Mayor

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Diane Clavier, City Clerk

(City Seal)

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY FOR THE USE AND RELIANCE OF THE
CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA ONLY:**

Steve Williams, City Attorney