

ORDINANCE 2026-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWN OF HILLIARD, NASSAU COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE TOWN CHARTER TO REMOVE THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR THE TOWN CLERK; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT, SEVERABILITY, ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTION OF SCRIVENERS ERROR, PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, since its incorporation, the Town of Hilliard has had an appointed Town Clerk to serve as the chief administrative officer; and

WHEREAS, the Hilliard Town Charter requires the Town Clerk to establish residency within the limits of the Town within a period of six (6) months from the date of hire; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hilliard has experienced substantial growth in both population and complexity, and continues to expand, thereby creating a pressing need to broaden the scope of eligible applicants for the Town Clerk position; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hilliard desires to remove the current residency requirements as applied to the Town Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the passage of this Ordinance is intended to ensure that the Hilliard Town Charter no longer imposes any residency requirements on the Town Clerk position.

SECTION 1: AUTHORITY

The Town Council of the Town of Hilliard has the authority to adopt this Ordinance pursuant to Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Florida and Chapter 163 and 166, Florida Statutes.

SECTION 2: AMENDING ARTICLE V "TOWN CLERK"

Article V of the Hilliard Town Charter, "Town Clerk," is hereby amended to read as follows:

ARTICLE V. - TOWN CLERK

Section 5.01. - Appointment; qualifications; compensation.

The Town Council by a majority vote of its total voting membership shall appoint a Town Clerk for an indefinite term and fix the clerk's compensation. The Town Clerk shall be appointed solely on the basis of executive and administrative qualifications. ~~The clerk need not be a resident of the Town of Hilliard or State of Florida at the time of appointment; however, within a period of six (6) months from the date of hire, he/she must establish residency within the limits of the Town.~~

SECTION 3: CONFLICT

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with any of the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4: SEVERABILITY

If any portion of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the invalidated portion shall be severed from the remainder of the Ordinance, and the remainder of the Ordinance shall continue in full force and effect as if enacted without the invalidated portion, except in cases where such continued validity of the remainder would clearly and without doubt contradict or frustrate the intent of the Ordinance as a whole.

SECTION 5: CODIFICATION

The text of Section 2 of this Ordinance shall be codified as a part of the Hilliard Town Code. The codifier is authorized to make editorial changes not effecting the substance of this Ordinance by the substitution of "Article" for "Ordinance", "Section" for "Paragraph", or otherwise to take such editorial license.

SECTION 6: ADMINISTRATIVE CORRECTION OF SCRIVENERS ERROR

Regardless of whether such inclusion in the Code as described in Section 2 is accomplished, sections of the Ordinance may be re-numbered or re-lettered and the correction of typographical and/or scrivener's errors which do not affect the intent may be authorized by the Town Clerk or designee, without need of public hearing, by filing a corrected or re-codified copy of same with the Town Clerk.

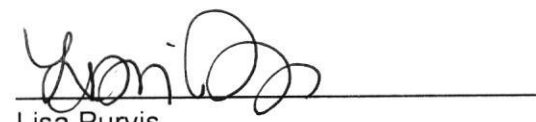
SECTION 7: PUBLICATION AND EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance and its Amendments shall be effective upon approval by a majority vote of the Town's qualified electors at a referendum conducted in accordance with Section 166.031, Florida Statutes.

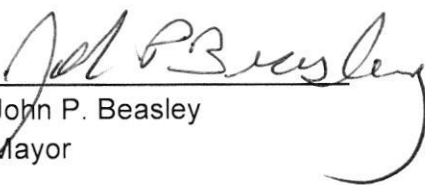
PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town of Hilliard, Nassau County, Florida on this 2nd
day of July, 2026


Kenneth A. Sims, Sr.
Council President

ATTEST:


Lisa Purvis
Town Clerk

APPROVED:


John P. Beasley
Mayor

Town Council First Reading:	June 4, 2026
Town Council Publication:	June 17, 2026
Town Council Public Hearing:	July 2, 2026
Town Council Final Reading:	July 2, 2026