

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-29

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, CHAPTER 46, PARKS AND RECREATION, ARTICLE I, IN GENERAL, SECTION 46-1, DESCRIPTIONS OF CITY PARKS SYSTEM; AUTHORIZED USES, AND SECTION 46-5, NAMING OR RENAMING A CITY-OWNED FACILITY OR PARK; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2025, the City Council of the City of Venice ("City") approved the renaming of City Hall Park to the Lavallee Municipal Campus, necessitating an update of the City Code of Ordinances ("Code"); and

WHEREAS, the present description of City Hall Park in the City Code includes Venice City Hall and Venice Fire Station 51; and

WHEREAS, the City seeks to incorporate the Lord-Higel House, located at 409 Granada Avenue, Venice, Florida, into the Lavallee Municipal Campus; and

WHEREAS, the City also desires to amend the City Code to eliminate the requirement of citizen advisory board review for council-initiated renaming of dedicated or designated city parks.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA, as follows:

SECTION 1. The above whereas clauses are ratified and confirmed as true and correct.

SECTION 2. Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article I, In General, Section 46.1, Description of city parks system; authorized uses, of the City's Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 46-1. – Description of city parks system; authorized uses.

The following parcels of land, together with the various median strips located in rights-of-way within the city limits, shall constitute the city parks system. Such lands shall be used and developed exclusively for the enjoyment of the general public as public parks, including but not limited to such uses as playgrounds, playfields, quiet landscape areas, cultural activity areas, waterfront activity areas or any appropriate combination thereof.

Blalock Park through Chuck Reiter Park No Change.

~~City Hall Park (designated park). Legal description: Block 36-B, Gulf View Section of Venice, as per plat thereof on file and of record in the public records of the county.~~

Dr. Fred Albee Park through John Nolen Park No Change.

Lavallee Municipal Campus (designated park). Legal description: Block 36-B, and Lots 11, 12, 13 and 14, Block 36, Gulf View Section of Venice, as per plats thereof on file and of record in the public records of the county.

Legacy Park to West Blalock Park No Change.

SECTION 3. Chapter 46, Parks and Recreation, Article I, In General, Section 46.5, Naming or renaming a city-owned facility or park, of the City's Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended as follows:

Sec. 46-5. Naming or renaming a city-owned facility or park.

- (a) *Intent and purpose.* The intent and purpose of this policy is to establish a uniform process for naming or renaming a city-owned facility or park.
- (b) *Approval authority.*
 - (1) *Authority.* City council shall have the authority to name or rename a city-owned facility or park after holding a public hearing and adopting a resolution.
 - (2) *Required citizen advisory board review.* In the case of a dedicated or designated city park, unless a city council-initiated request, the citizen advisory board shall make a recommendation to city council.
 - (3) *Optional board or commission reviews.* City council, at its discretion, may refer the naming or renaming of a city-owned facility or park to any of the other standing city boards, committees, task forces or commissions for a recommendation.
 - (4) *Public notice required.* No public hearing for naming or renaming a city-owned facility or park shall be held unless public notice has been provided. At minimum, public notice shall inform the public of the place, date and time of the public hearing and describe the naming or renaming request.
 - a. Publication of notice of the public hearing in a newspaper of general circulation in the city shall be provided at least 30 days prior to the public hearing.
 - b. One or more signs shall be posted on the property subject to a naming or renaming application at least 15 days prior to the public hearing. A sign shall be erected in full view of the public on each street frontage of the property or on the closest public street frontage from which the subject property gains access. It shall be a violation of this chapter for any person to remove or deface any such sign.
 - c. Notice of the time and place of the public hearing by city council shall be sent at least 15 days in advance of the hearing by regular mail to all owners of property within 250 feet of the property lines of the land for which proposed naming or renaming is sought. For purposes of this requirement, the names and addresses of property owners shall be deemed those appearing on the latest tax rolls of the county. Failure of a property owner to receive mail notice shall not invalidate the public hearing or subsequent action

related thereto. The city clerk shall execute and file a certificate which shall contain the names and addresses of those persons notified, and the date the notice was mailed. The certificate shall be signed by the city clerk and the official seal affixed. The certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the fact that notice was mailed.

- d. Notice of the time and place of the public hearing by city council shall be sent at least 15 days in advance of the session by regular mail to any registered neighborhood association.

- (5) *Background check required.* The city manager shall conduct a background check of the proposed individual to assure that such individual is of good character and representative of community values.

(c) through (h) No change.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. If any part, section, subsection, or other portion of this ordinance or any application thereof to any person or circumstance is declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid for any reason, such part, section, subsection, or other portion, or the prescribed application thereof, shall be severable, and the remaining provisions of this ordinance, and all applications thereof not having been declared void, unconstitutional, or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 6. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its approval and adoption, as provided by law.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VENICE, FLORIDA THIS 9TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2025.

First Reading: August 26, 2025

Second Reading: September 9, 2025

Adoption: September 9, 2025

Nick Pachota, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

I, Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk of the City of Venice, Florida, a municipal corporation in Sarasota County, Florida, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full and complete, true and correct copy of an Ordinance duly adopted by the City of Venice Council, a meeting thereof duly convened and held on the 9th day of September 2025, a quorum being present.

WITNESS my hand and the official seal of said City this 9th day of September 2025.

Kelly Michaels, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Kelly Fernandez, City Attorney