

AN ORDINANCE FOR THE CALLING OF A SPECIAL ELECTION FOR THE QUALIFIED VOTERS OF THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE TO CONSIDER MERGING THE CITY OF WARD RIDGE, FLORIDA INTO THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA; TO PROVIDE NECESSARY FINANCIAL ADJUSTMENTS; TO PROVIDE A DESCRIPTION OF THE REAL ESTATE INVOLVED INCLUDING THE TRANSFER OF ALL ASSETS TO THE CITY OF PORT ST. JOE; TO PROVIDE A DATE FOR SAID SPECIAL ELECTION; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE FOR SAID MERGER.

WHEREAS, The City of Ward Ridge is contiguous with the City of Port St. Joe, and

WHEREAS, the desire has been expressed by the citizens of Ward Ridge to merge with the City of Port St. Joe in order to obtain better and extended water and sewer services, police protection, fire protection, maintenance and construction of streets and other benefits that may be available, including but not limited to reduction in fire insurance rates, water and sewer rates, and

WHEREAS, the City of Ward Ridge conducted an election on the question of "Do you favor merging the City of Ward Ridge to the City of Port St. Joe?", and

WHEREAS, a majority of the citizens of Ward Ridge were in favor of said action.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE of Port St. Joe, Florida as follows:

I. That a special election shall be held on the 12th day of May, 1987 on the question, "Do you favor merging the City of Ward Ridge, Florida into the City of Port St. Joe, Florida: YES _____ NO _____. In the event the majority of the qualified voters voting in said election approve said merger, then

A. the merger shall be effective by resolution on the confirmation of the results of the election by resolution of the City Commission of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida. Said resolution shall be passed not later than sixty (60) days from the date of said election. The action taken shall be as nearly as practical, concurrent with the action taken by the City of Ward Ridge in making all final transfers and finding that all

things required to be done have been done;

B. the financial adjustments required shall be that all bank accounts in the name of the City of Ward Ridge, all accounts receivable held by the City of Ward Ridge and all city property owned by the City of Ward Ridge shall inure to and become the property of the City of Port St. Joe, Florida subject to that outstanding lease on the North one half (1/2) of the City Hall of the City of Ward Ridge.

II. Said election shall be held at the Fire Station in Port St. Joe, Florida during the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. on the 12th day of May, 1987 and a notice of said election shall be published at least once a week for four (4) consecutive weeks prior to the election.

III. The area to be incorporated and merged into the City of Port St. Joe is the entire area of the City of Ward Ridge, Gulf County, Florida more particularly described as follows:

The Northwest quarter (NW 1/4) except the East 990 feet and all of the Southwest quarter (SW 1/4) lying west of Garrison Avenue extension to State Road 30A except the West 660 feet thereof all being located in Section 18, Township 8 South, Range 10 West, Gulf County, Florida.

In the event that the electors of the City of Port St. Joe vote to merge with the City of Ward Ridge, the mayor and city commissioners of the City of Port St. Joe, in behalf of said City, are authorized to accept all necessary documents conveying all streets, alleys, waterworks, sewer facilities and other property owned by the City of Ward Ridge.

The Ordinance introduced and read for the first time at a special meeting on the 6th day of April, 1987 and read for a final time and adopted at a regular meeting on April 7, 1987.

CITY OF PORT ST. JOE, FLORIDA

By: Franklin

ATTEST:

L. J. [Signature]
CLERK