International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Jacksonville Resolution in Opposition to Proposed Ordinance 2020-559

WHEREAS, the laws setting registration fees for certain vessels operated upon the navigable waters of the State of Florida and Duval County are set forth in Sec. 328.72, Florida Statutes;

WHEREAS, the City Council of the Consolidated City of Jacksonville is considering a measure, Proposed Ordinance 2020-559, to increase the fees for vessel registration in Duval County by fifty present (50%) of the current registration fees as set by statute;

WHEREAS, this proposed fifty percent (50%) increase in registration fees would have a disproportionate effect upon recreational boaters who reside in Duval County, Florida, based upon the exemption of many commercial and other vessels that also operate upon the navigable waters of Duval County;

WHEREAS, the navigable waters of Duval County are used by many others outside of Duval County, the State of Florida, as well as international persons and entities; WHEREAS, past actions by the City Council of the Consolidated City of Jacksonville have already increased the tax burden upon the citizens of Duval County; and WHEREAS, the navigable waterways of Duval County are an asset that benefits all citizens of Duval County and thus their maintenance should be funded through general funds collected by the Consolidated City of Jacksonville;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

The International Propeller Club of the United States, Port of Jacksonville, stands firmly in opposition to Proposed Ordinance 2020-559, and emphasizes the need for the funding of maintenance of the navigable waterways of Duval County through general funds collected by the Consolidated City of Jacksonville, and not through a fifty percent (50%) increase of vessel registration fees that would have a disproportionate effect upon recreational boaters in Duval County, Florida.

Adopted this 3rd day of June, 2021.

Linda Carrion, President

Linda Carrion