RESOLUTION NO. 39746

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A RESOLUTION relating to employment; authorizing the appropriate representatives of the City to initiate a one-time divided vote referendum for Medicare-only coverage for eligible employees who are members of the LEOFF retirement system and represented by Tacoma Police Management Association, Local 26, the Tacoma Police Union, Local 6, or by the Professional Public Safety Managers Association.

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WHEREAS state law establishes procedures in which members of

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retirement systems in political subdivisions of the state of Washington may obtain

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Part A Hospital Insurance Medicare-only coverage ("Medicare"), and

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WHEREAS the collective bargaining agreement negotiated with the Tacoma

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Police Management Association, Local 26, adopted by Resolution No. 39603 on

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December 6, 2016, provides that, in accordance with RCW 41.48.030, the City

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shall proceed with a one-time Medicare-only opt-in opportunity for eligible

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members, and

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WHEREAS the referendum cannot exclude other police personnel covered

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under the LEOFF retirement system, and

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WHEREAS the City desires to offer Medicare coverage to its eligible

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employees who are members of the LEOFF retirement system and represented by

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the Tacoma Police Management Association, Local 26, the Tacoma Police Union,

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Local 6, or by the Professional Public Safety Managers Association; Now,

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Therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TACOMA:

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Section 1. That it is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of the

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City to extend the provisions of RCW 41.48.030, providing Hospital Insurance

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Medicare-only coverage ("Medicare") to eligible employees of the City covered under the LEOFF retirement system and represented by the Tacoma Police Management Association, Local 26, the Tacoma Police Union, Local 6, or by the Professional Public Safety Managers Association.

Section 2. That, accordingly, the City of Tacoma requests the State Social Security Administrator, Employment Security Department/Department of Retirement Systems, to conduct a divided vote referendum, under Section 218(d)(6) of the Social Security Act, for employees hired before April 1, 1986, who are members of the LEOFF retirement system and represented by Tacoma Police Management Association, Local 26, the Tacoma Police Union, Local 6, or by the Professional Public Safety Managers Association. The divided vote referendum will be conducted pursuant to applicable state and federal laws and regulations for the purpose of allowing eligible employees the option of paying the Medicare-only tax.

Section 3. That the proper officers of the City are authorized to execute an agreement with the state of Washington to secure Medicare coverage of eligible employees, as necessary and as provided in Section 1 of this resolution.

Section 4. That the coverage of eligible employees shall be effective as soon as practicable, for the employees who vote "Yes" in the divided vote Medicare referendum.

Section 5. That the withholdings from salaries or wages of employees for the purposes provided in Section 1 of this resolution are hereby authorized to be made in the amounts and at such times as may be required by applicable state

-2-

and federal laws and regulations and shall be paid to the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"), in such amounts and at such times as are designated in IRS Code 3121(b)(7)(E) and 3126.

Section 6. That employer contributions shall be paid from amounts appropriated for such purposes to the IRS, in accordance with applicable federal laws.

Section 7. That the City of Tacoma shall maintain such records and submit such reports as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations.

Section 8. That this resolution shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage.

Adopted _____

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Mayor

Attest:

_____
City Clerk

Approved as to form:

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Deputy City Attorney

-3-