ORDINANCE NO. 20,245

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND LITTLE ROCK, ARK., REV. CODE § 2-330.41 (1988) TO INCREASE BY TWO MEMBERS SELECTED FROM WARD 1 AND WARD 2 THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE LAND BANK COMMISSION; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND, FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, pursuant to Little Rock, Ark., Ordinance No. 19,911 (January 15, 2008), the City created the Land Bank Commission ("the Commission") to help "reverse urban blight, increase home ownership and stability of property values, provide affordable housing, improve the health and safety of neighborhoods within the city, and maintain the architectural fabric of the community" as set forth in Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-330.30 (1988); and,

WHEREAS, there are currently nine (9) members on the Commission, four of whom are selected at-large; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors believes that there should be adequate representation of residents from the designated focus area of the Land Bank boundaries, which define the ultimate goal and intent of its mission to alleviate decades of blight in the inner city; and,

WHEREAS, it is believed that the appointment of two additional members is essential to the fulfillment and intent of the Land Bank Commission;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:

Section 1. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-330.41 (a) (1988) shall be amended to read as follows:

(a) The Commission shall consist of eleven (11) persons to be appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the city board of directors.

Section 2. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-330.41 (1988) shall be amended to substitute the number of eleven (11) for the number nine (9) where there are references to the number of members of the Commission.

Section 3. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-330.41(e) (1988) shall be amended as follows:

(f) One (1) of the eleven (11) members shall specifically be designated as selected from Ward 1, notwithstanding the fact that any other Commissioner lives in Ward 1;
(g) One (1) of the eleven (11) members shall specifically be designated as selected from Ward 2, notwithstanding the fact that any other Commissioner lives in Ward 2;

Section 4. Little Rock, Ark., Rev. Code § 2-330.41 (1988) shall be reorganized to include the new subsections (f) and (g), and to redesignate any current subsections as necessary.

Section 5. Severability. In the event any section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, subparagraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this ordinance is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or adjudication shall not affect the remaining provisions of this ordinance, as if such invalid or unconstitutional provision was not originally a part of this ordinance.

Section 6. Repealer. All ordinances, resolutions, bylaws, and other matters inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section 7. Emergency. The ability to assure adequate representation by residents of the focus area of the Land Bank Commission is essential to fulfillment of the purpose of the Commission, and because the work of the Land Bank Commission is essential to the development of important areas of the City, is necessary to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare; an emergency is, therefore, declared to exist and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after the date of its passage and publication.

DATE: April 6, 2010

APPROVED:

Mark Stodola, Mayor

SPONSOR:

Erma Hendrix, Director, Ward 1

Ordinance to increase membership of the Land Bank Commission to include an expressly designated Ward 1 and Ward commissioner