# CITY OF TAMARAC INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Michael C. Cernech, DATE: April 22, 2020

City Manager

FROM: Jennifer Johnson RE: TO2429 – Online Campaign

City Clerk Treasury Reporting

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

I am recommending the City Commission approve, TO2429 – Online Campaign Treasury Reporting, implementing a mandatory electronic campaign filing system for monthly campaign reports.

### ISSUE:

The City Clerk is requesting approval of TO2429 - Online Campaign Treasury Reporting, implementing a mandatory electronic campaign filing system for monthly campaign reports. The software is VR Systems and procured through an interlocal agreement with the Broward County Supervisor of Elections. The initial cost is \$4,090, with an annual fee of \$2,718.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Currently, candidates for Mayor or City Commission, must file original campaign reports, containing an original signature to the City Clerk's Office monthly. This can be time consuming for both the candidate, and the Clerk's Office. Florida Statute 106.07 provides that a governing body, by ordinance or resolution, may impose the use of electronic filing requirements upon candidates.

Implementation of the software (VR Systems) would benefit both parties in that they no longer have to be present to file a campaign report, it would increase transparency of the election process as anyone that has filed the Designation of Campaign Treasurer & Statement of Candidacy would have access to the software, as well as eliminate any opportunity of impropriety associated with time received stamps, or hard copy record keeping.

Candidates for state office, as well candidates for all 67 county elected positions, use VR Systems for campaign reporting. Several cities including Fort Lauderdale, Parkland, Lauderhill and Coconut Creek have already opted in, and have begun using VR Systems.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Broward Supervisor of Elections (SOE) has contracted to provide the VR Systems software to municipalities through an optional interlocal agreement. Costs for the software is proportionally based on the number of registered voters per municipality. The initial cost for the software is \$4,090, and \$2,718 each year thereafter. The funding for this would be allocated for the City Clerk's Office.