

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Ocala Electric Utility, wishes to celebrate 125 years of Municipal Electric Service to the City of Ocala and surrounding Marion County; and

WHEREAS, in 1898 Ocala Electric Utility was founded when citizens and leaders of Ocala recognized the need for infrastructure to drive growth and development in the community; and

WHEREAS, The City of Ocala bought Ocala Light and Power Company from General Electric Company of New York for \$14,500 which was defrayed by 20-year electric light bonds. The city operated on generators and began serving the citizens of Ocala with electricity; and

WHEREAS, operated by local government, the Ocala Electric Utility started and continues to be a community—owned, hometown enterprise and exists to provide a return on investment to the community; and

WHEREAS, Ocala Electric Utility provides electricity as a public service provider in a caring, yet business-like manner, and continue to provide the citizens of Ocala and Marion County with reliable energy at a competitive price; and

WHEREAS, Ocala Electric Utility's emphasis will always be on meeting customers' changing service requirement and needs. It is committed to exceeding the expectations of our customers who are also our family members, neighbors, and friends; and

WHEREAS, Ocala Electric Utility's mission will be accomplished through our commitment to quality and outstanding service in a continually changing environment.

NOW, THEREFORE, **I, Kent Guinn**, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Ocala, Florida, do hereby recognize January through December 2023 as the

125th ANNIVERSARY OF OCALA ELECTRIC UTILITY SERVICE TO OUR COMMUNITY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that the week of Oct. 2-8, 2022, be designated as Public Power Week to recognize Ocala Electric Utility for its contributions to the community and to educate customer-owners, policy makers, and employees on the benefits of public power.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Ocala, Florida, to be affixed this 7th day of October 2022.

Kent Guinn, Mayor City of Ocala