

**RESOLUTION
CITY OF PORTAGE, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION REGARDING CLIMATE CRISIS**

Minutes of a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Portage, Michigan held virtually on February 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. local time at City Hall in the City of Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan.

PRESENT: Burns, Knapp, Ledbetter, Pearson, Randall, Reid, Urban.

ABSENT: None.

The following resolution was offered by:

COUNCILMEMBER: Urban and supported by

COUNCILMEMBER: Burns.

Whereas, in May 2009 the Portage Mayor and City Council were among a group of signatories to the Southwest Michigan Regional Sustainability Covenant, designed to provide an improved quality of life for future generations; and

Whereas, the City of Portage has a goal to develop and implement strategies to support a healthy and sustainable environment and local ecology; and

Whereas, the above goal is supported by a 2015 community-wide visioning exercise that emphasized a vision that the City of Portage will be recognized for sustainable planning based on ethical environmental standards and incentives; and

Whereas, with this resolution, the City of Portage joins with other communities in Southwest Michigan, the U.S. and internationally who recognize the short and long-term consequences posed by the climate crisis; and

Whereas, the City of Portage and neighboring communities have already begun to see the migration of vector-borne diseases and the impacts of extreme weather events on the safety and security of its citizens, businesses and investments; and

Whereas, the City of Portage is home to lakes, bogs, creeks and other sensitive ecological habitats unique to our community which are threatened by climate change; and

Whereas, the City of Portage is known for being a community with a commitment to the creation and maintenance of parks, trails and green spaces and a record of a commitment to environmental stewardship; and

Whereas, by joining with other communities in Southwest Michigan who have recognized the climate crisis and pledged to take action on a local and regional level, the City of Portage joins these leaders in regional climate action mobilization efforts;

NOW BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Portage City Council hereby recognizes that the climate crisis threatens dramatic and adverse consequences for our community, Southwest Michigan, the State of Michigan and the natural world; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Portage commits to taking action and implementing policies, projects and procedures that promote environmental sustainability that will, along with regional and worldwide efforts, slow down and reverse the impacts of climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Portage commits to educating Portage residents about the climate crisis and accepts a role of regional leadership, and as such will seek partnerships with other regional governments, businesses, community groups, educational and other anchor institutions to best utilize regional expertise and resources to meet shared goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Portage underscores the need for full community participation, inclusion, and support for the climate mobilization effort; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Portage calls on the State of Michigan, the United States of America, and all governments and peoples worldwide to initiate an aggressive global effort to reverse global warming, to end global greenhouse gas emissions as quickly as possible, and to immediately initiate an effort to safely draw down carbon from the atmosphere; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, the City of Portage pledges to inspire and encourage individual climate action efforts at the local, state, national, and global levels to provide maximum protection for all people and species of the world.

ADOPTED:

YEAS: Burns, Knapp, Ledbetter, Pearson, Randall, Reid, Urban.

NAYS: **None.**

ABSENT: None

All resolutions and parts of resolutions insofar as they conflict with the foregoing resolution are hereby rescinded.

Erica Eklov
Erica Eklov, City Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
)
COUNTY OF KALAMAZOO)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting City Clerk of the City of Portage, Kalamazoo County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a special meeting of the City Council of said City, held on the 9th day of February, 2021 the original of which resolution is on file in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my signature this 9th day of February 2021.

Erica Eklov
Erica Eklov, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Date: 2/3/2021
Arthur Kuepfer
City Attorney

