

A RESOLUTION OF GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION TO THE AVON LAKE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND ITS STAFF MEMBERS, GERRY VOGEL AND LAURA PLOENZKE.

WHEREAS, this Council wishes to pause and express its gratitude to the Avon Lake Public Library (ALPL) and its staff members, Gerry Vogel and Laura Ploenzke; and

WHEREAS, the City's Records Retention Schedule identifies the historic legislative documents and meeting minutes of Council as permanent records, and the Clerk of Council is the custodian of these records; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Clerk of Council to store these permanent records in a secured location and to utilize the most practical preservation practices that are determined by the City's finances and based on the recommendations of the Ohio History Connection of Columbus, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, legislative records from May of 1949 to the present date and meeting minutes from 1972 to the present date have been scanned and digitized and are stored electronically within the City's document management system, but legislation from 1918 to April 1949 and minutes from 1918 to 1972 had not been digitized because they were bound into 26 books; and

WHEREAS, duplicating Council's permanent records serves as a backup in the event the permanent records are damaged or destroyed and provides legal or genealogy research; and

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Council researched methods to digitize the 26 books and consulted Gerry Vogel, the ALPL Assistant Director, who recommended the City and ALPL apply for a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to fund the acquisition of high-resolution book scanner; and

WHEREAS, the grant application was denied, but the ALPL Board of Trustees agreed to fund the purchase of a high-resolution Zeutschel book scanner that was then received in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Clerk of Council and Assistant Clerk of Council (Clerks) were trained on utilizing the Zeutschel book scanner and started the Preservation Project (Project) during Council's recess in 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Project was suspended after Council's recess concluded because of the Clerks' time-consuming duties and responsibilities to Council; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vogel knew the Project was suspended, contacted the Clerk of Council in February of 2023, and offered the assistance of ALPL staff and other qualified volunteers to resume and finalize this Project; and

WHEREAS, beginning in June of 2023 and ending in April of 2024, Librarian Laura Ploenzke took the lead on this Project, and she and other volunteers, meticulously and patiently scanned and digitized 26 books.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF
THE CITY OF AVON LAKE, STATE OF OHIO:

Section No. 1: That this Council does for and on behalf of the City of Avon Lake extend its gratitude and appreciation to the Avon Lake Public Library, Assistant Director Gerry Vogel, Librarian Laura Ploenzke, and all other volunteers who participated in the preservation of the permanent legislative records and minutes of Council.

Section No. 2: That Council directs the Clerk of Council to include this Resolution in the minutes of this meeting, and she is hereby requested to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to the Avon Lake Public Library and its staff members, Gerry Vogel and Laura Ploenzke.

PASSED: 6/24/2024

/s/ Martin E. O'Donnell
President of Council

POSTED: 6/28/2024

APPROVED: 6/27/2024

ATTEST: /s/ Valeris E. Rosmarin
Clerk of Council

/s/ Mark A. Spatzel
Mayor