

RESOLUTION NO. R20 **25R-20**

Resolution Proclaiming October, 2025 as Polish American Heritage month in the City of Hammond, Indiana

WHEREAS, in October, the month the first Polish settlers arrived in Jamestown, Virginia in 1608, we celebrate the many contributions that Americans of Polish heritage have made to our nation; and

WHEREAS, during the 20th century, millions of Poles immigrated to the United States, building churches and schools and establishing community and fraternal organizations; and

WHEREAS, today there are about 9 million Americans of Polish descent, many of whom have made significant contributions to the arts, science, business, government, technology, athletics, military service, and the culinary industry; and

WHEREAS, the global legacy of Polish people includes discoveries in astronomy by Nicolaus Copernicus, Nobel prize-winning research in physics and chemistry by Marie Skłodowska Curie, musical artistry by Ignacy Jan Paderewski and Frédéric Chopin, devotion to workers' rights by Lech Wałęsa, religious freedom as expressed courageously by Saint Pope John Paul II and St. Maximilian Kolbe, martyr of Auschwitz concentration and extermination camp; and

WHEREAS, courageous Poles helped secure our independence during the Revolutionary War such as Brigadier General Tadeusz Kościuszko, who masterminded a key British defeat at Saratoga and oversaw the building of military fortifications at West Point, and Brigadier General Casimir Pulaski, Father of the American Cavalry, who was mortally wounded during the Battle of Savannah in October, 1779; and

WHEREAS, Polish fraternal and social organizations and businesses have long provided social support, insurance programs and cultural programming in the region including the Polish National Alliance (PNA), Polish Cultural Society of Indiana (PCSI), Polish American Veterans Assn. Post 40 (Hammond), and have sponsored local events including Dożynki (harvest festivals), parish bazaars, parades and polka fests; and

WHEREAS, Polish parishes founded in Hammond including St. Adalbert (1902), St. Casimir (1892), and Our Lady of Częstochowa (1912), preserved faith traditions through Polish language Masses and devotions, the Easter custom of Świąconka (Holy Saturday basket blessing), and Christmas Eve Wigilia supper; and

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that Hammond does hereby designate October, 2025, as Polish American Heritage Month in the City of Hammond, Indiana, and does hereby encourage residents to join in celebrating the many contributions of Polish Americans and the traditions, food, music, and faith that have enriched Hammond civic life.

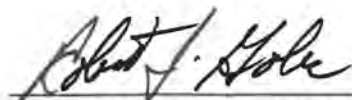
Resolution Proclaiming October, 2025 as Polish American Heritage month in the City of Hammond, Indiana

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Hammond, on the 14th day of October, 2025.



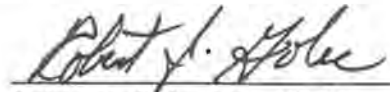
Dave Woerpel, President

ATTEST:



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond, to the Mayor of said City for his approval on the 15th day of October, 2025.



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk

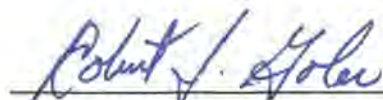
The foregoing Resolution No. R20 consisting of 2 pages, including this page

Approved by the Mayor on the 16th day of October, 2025.



THOMAS M. McDERMOTT, JR., MAYOR
City of Hammond, Indiana

ADOPTED by the Common Council on the 14th day of October, 2025,
and Approved by the Mayor on the 16th day of October, 2025.



Robert J. Golec, City Clerk