

SPONSOR: Michael Opinker
5th District Councilman

RESOLUTION NO. R18

A Resolution to Censure Councilman Higgs

WHEREAS, A motion of censure is a legislative procedure for reprimanding a fellow legislative member; it represents a formal condemnation by a body's own members; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, the State of Indiana, and the City of Hammond, Government is based on the consent of the governed. In a democracy, the people are sovereign, the holders of the highest form of political authority. Power flows from the people to the leaders of government, who hold power only at the will of the people. The people of Hammond, like all United States Citizens are free to criticize their elected leaders and representatives, and to observe how they conduct the business of government; and

WHEREAS, The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects "free speech," and Citizens of the United States are protected from retaliation for exercising free speech by the First Amendment and the Fourteenth Amendment;

WHEREAS, Councilman Anthony Higgs recently has brought ridicule and embarrassment to the Hammond Common Council by attempting through frivolous court process to silence Citizens who wish to criticize the government; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hammond, by its Common Council, wishes to promote and encourage a the expression of protected First Amendment Rights which will foster and support Democracy and better government for all of Hammond; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Common Council of the City of Hammond that the City of Hammond, Indiana, supports the First Amendment to the Constitution and wishes to now formally censure Councilman Anthony Higgs for his efforts to intimidate and silence critical Citizens of Hammond, Indiana.

SO RESOLVED this 11th day of September 2015.

ATTEST: _____
ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/

Dan Spitale, Vice President /s/
Hammond Common Council

PRESENTED BY ME, the undersigned City Clerk of the City of Hammond to the Mayor said City for approval on the 15th day of September, 2015.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/

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The foregoing Resolution No. R18 consisting of two (2) typewritten pages, including this page, approved by the Mayor on the 16th day September, 2015.

THOMAS M. MCDERMOTT, JR., Mayor /s/
City of Hammond, Indiana

PASSED by the Common Council on the 14th day of September, 2015.

ROBERT J. GOLEC, City Clerk /s/