

PASSED 9-25-17 WITH A 7-0 VOTE

RESOLUTION No.: 15, 2017

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA,
REGARDING THE RECENT ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN CHARLOTTE SVILLE, VIRGINIA**

WHEREAS, our nation's "Declaration of Independence" establishes bedrock principles of our democracy, and among them that "All Men Are Created Equal, Endowed by Their Creator with the Unalienable Rights, of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness"; and

WHEREAS, our nation's foundational principles have guided us to value, respect, protect, and nourish our diversity of thought, ideas, and people; the very strength and resilience of our nation is attributable to ours being a country where men and women of different races, faiths, sexual orientations, and political beliefs are indivisibly united as one in the greatest country ever known to this world, the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana (the "Common Council"), along with all of our good citizens mourn the victims of the tragic events in Charlottesville, Virginia, stand united, and resolute in our repudiation of the hatred promoted by the various wings of white supremacists demonstrators in Charlottesville, Virginia.; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council is resolute in its support for the free-speech rights of Americans, we must at all cost avoid ignoring or appearing to tacitly condone the espousing of hate speech or violence, threatened or committed, by any groups seeking to commit acts of domestic terrorism against racial, ethnic, and religious minorities or other classes of protected individuals as was the case in Charlottesville; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana, as follows:

1. The Common Council repudiates and condemns white supremacists, Neo-Nazis, the Ku Klux Klan, and any other group that espouses hate and seeks to undermine the very ideals of who we are as Americans;
2. The Common Council further condemns the acts of violence in Charlottesville as domestic terrorism;
3. The Common Council celebrates the diversity of our City, State and Nation; and
4. The Common Council condemns those who seek to spread hate and division while attacking the foundational values of our City, State and Nation.

Adopted this _____ day of September, 2017, by a vote of all members present and voting.

Matt Murphy

John Bowker

Lenore Hoffman

Diana Reed

Trista Hudson

Robert Cotton

Deb Porter

Jon Costas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Swihart, Clerk-Treasurer