

RESOLUTION NO. 12, 2024

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA, RECOGNIZING PRIDE MONTH

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to encouraging Valparaiso to remain a safe and welcoming community for all residents and visitors.

WHEREAS, June 2024 marks the 55th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising in New York City, an event that many consider the start of the gay rights movement in the United States.

WHEREAS, freedom of expression is a fundamental Constitutional right in the United States; we are a pluralistic society that finds strength and vitality in its rich diversity.

WHEREAS, in June 1999, President Bill Clinton issued a Proclamation officially designating June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month.

WHEREAS, in 2011 the city of Valparaiso created the Mayor's Advisory Human Relations Council in order to advance community inclusion, foster a better understanding of minority groups and generally promote our city as a welcoming city to all who choose to visit and/or call it home.

WHEREAS, in 2016 the city of Valparaiso adopted a Human Rights Ordinance which prohibits discrimination on the basis of a person's race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, veteran status, and familial status.

WHEREAS, Valparaiso strives to be a community where every citizen feels safe, respected, and inherently valued regardless of their lifestyle, ethnicity, beliefs or abilities.

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the many contributions of members of the LGBTQ+ community and the courage and resilience of the LGBTQ+ community's hard-fought victories to advance acceptance and equality.

WHEREAS, the city council recognizes that our citizens have varied beliefs on issues such as marriage, sexuality and gender, and this resolution is not intended to promote or endorse any certain view on these personal matters. However, these differing perspectives do not in any way preclude us from accepting and valuing our LGBTQ+ fellow citizens.

WHEREAS, the City Council stands united against, and condemns all forms of intolerance, discrimination, bigotry, and hate-filled efforts targeting the LGBTQ+ community and other minority groups.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Indiana, that Valparaiso joins other communities in recognizing June as Pride Month. The City Council encourages all residents to learn more about the history of this human rights movement and recognize the many and varied contributions of Valparaiso citizens who identify as members of the LGBTQ+ community.

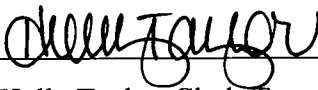
NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council acknowledges the engagement and efforts of Mayors Advisory Human Relations Council, as well as the advice and effective advocacy of numerous community leaders within the LGBTQ+ community.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Valparaiso, Porter County, Indiana, by a 6-1 vote, this 13th day of May, 2024.



Jon Costas, Mayor

ATTEST:



Holly Taylor, Clerk-Treasurer