

Resolution #22, 2006

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF VALPARAISO COMMON COUNCIL
URGING THE INDIANA STATE LEGISLATURE TO PASS THE HOMETOWN
MATTERS LEGISLATION

Whereas, like in Valparaiso, Indiana, the quality of life in any community can be directly related to the responsiveness of local government and its ability to meet the needs and expectations of its citizens; and

Whereas, the citizens of Valparaiso, understand this connection and elect local leaders with certain expectations regarding the service they will provide and the role they will play in their lives; and

Whereas, those elected to serve here in our hometown in turn accept the privilege of service with the understanding of their responsibility and the expectations of the community; and

Whereas while a community can share in the joys, successes and setbacks of their city or town, the accountability for Valparaiso's viability, prosperity and overall well-being lies directly with those elected to serve in your local government; and

Whereas, in order for our local government to succeed and deliver according to the expectations of our citizens, we must be given the tools and authority to run our city/town in a manner that best fits the uniqueness and character we have groomed and maintained for nearly one hundred and fifty years; and

Whereas, the General Assembly over the course of time has maintained a practice of restricting the ability of municipalities across the state of Indiana to manage our budgets in a manner that best suits the individuality that makes Indiana a great place to live and that remains consistent with the expectations our citizens have when they elect their local leadership;

Whereas, local leaders and experts in government finance from across the state have collaborated and developed a plan that will bring local decision making about the finances of Valparaiso back home and it is called Hometown Matters.

Now, Therefore, in the 2007 session of the Indiana General Assembly, this body urges the legislature to pass *Hometown Matters* and return control of your local government back to those you elected to serve, and give us the ability to manage according to the needs and expectations of the people of Valparaiso.

Signed and approved this 25th day of September, 2006 by the members of the City of Valparaiso Common Council.

D. Joey Larr

Jan M. Dick

Edward Howe

Al Eisenmenger

Robert McCasland

John Bowker

Chuck Williams

Jon Costas, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sharon Emerson Swihart
Clerk-Treasurer