

COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOBART

RESOLUTION NO. 2024- 15

A Resolution in Support of Patriot Park in the City of Hobart as the Location of the Proposed Lake County Convention Center

WHEREAS, the Common Council (“Council”) of the City of Hobart, Indiana (“City”), on behalf of the City, recognize the importance of economic development and tourism as vital components of the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Lake County’s primary conference center space, the Radisson Star Plaza, closed in 2016, leaving a gap in the local hospitality market that has not been filled and prompting the State of Indiana to enact legislation that would provide up to \$5 million per year for 20 years (\$100 million in total) of matching funds for the construction of a new convention center, and the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority (RDA) has led the process of completing a comprehensive feasibility study assisting the supportability of a new convention center, and ranking 14 potential sites in Lake County for the Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, the RDA feasibility study ranked Patriot Park, formerly Silverstone, located at 7800 Mississippi Street in the City of Hobart, the first and best choice for the location for the Lake County Convention Center which would house a 145,000 square-foot convention center with 73,000 square-feet of meeting and exhibition space, including a 18,000 square-foot ballroom; and

WHEREAS, the RDA feasibility study further found that the proposed new convention center in Lake County could generate nearly \$60 million annually for the local economy, create over 1,300 full-time, part-time, and temporary construction jobs, and boost local state revenues by more than \$3.5 million per year hosting state and regional groups, in addition to corporate and other types of event activity from the Chicago/Northwest Indiana greater metropolitan area and throughout the state of Indiana introducing Lake County with a wide array of event attendees unfamiliar with the area; and

WHEREAS, the City leadership is currently in the planning process for the Patriot Park site through a public-private partnership which includes light industrial, retail, and a sports complex which would be advantageous to the proposed state of the art convention center that will stimulate local business in the City of Hobart, create jobs and enhance the quality of life for residents, and be a major economic driver for Northwest Indiana; and

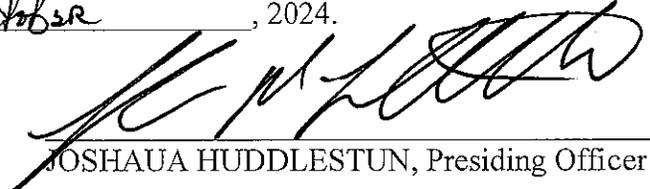
WHEREAS, the City Council believes that the establishment of the Northwest Indiana Convention Center at the Patriot Park location aligns with the strategic goals of promoting community engagement and supporting local businesses and tourism; and

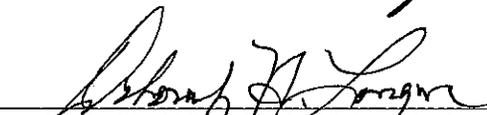
WHEREAS, the Lake County Commissioners have announced that they will accept competitive proposals for consideration in choosing a site for the Lake County Convention Center up to October 16, 2024, and the Council enthusiastically supports the City’s efforts in the preparation and promotion of Patriot Park’s proposal to be the designated location for this important initiative; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Hobart that:

1. The Common Council of the City of Hobart hereby adopts findings of the Northwest Indiana Regional Development Authority that Patriot Park is the premiere location in Lake County Indiana for the construction and operation of the proposed Lake County Convention Center.
2. The City Administration is authorized to execute any necessary agreements and contracts to facilitate the development of the competitive request for proposal to be submitted to the Lake County Commissioners to promote the Patriot Park location.
3. The Common Council of the City of Hobart commits to engaging with the community and encouraging community input to ensure that the proposed Convention Center meets the needs of all the stakeholders.
4. The Common Council of the City of Hobart commits to collaborating and partnering with educational institutions, business, economic development organizations, and the Indiana Convention Center to best serve local, regional and statewide priorities.
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ALL OF WHICH, is adopted as the Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Hobart on this 2nd day of October, 2024.


JOSHUA HUDDLESTUN, Presiding Officer

ATTEST: 
DEBORAH A. LONGER, Clerk Treasurer

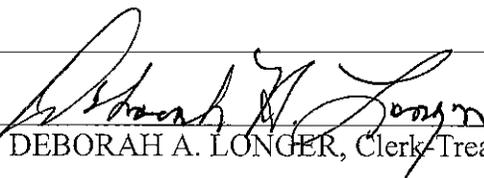
PRESENTED by me to the Mayor of the City of Hobart, Indiana this 2nd day of October, 2024, at 7:00 pm o'clock.


DEBORAH A. LONGER, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED, SIGNED, and RETURNED by me as Mayor of the City of Hobart, Indiana, to the Common Council of the City of Hobart, Indiana, this 2nd day of October, 2024.


JOSHUA HUDDLESTUN, Mayor

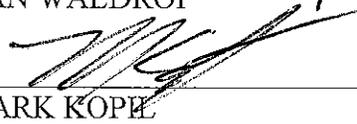
ATTEST:


DEBORAH A. LONGER, Clerk-Treasurer

Members of the Hobart Common Council

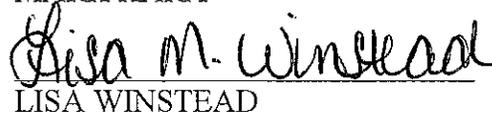

DAN WALDROP

MATTHEW CLAUSSEN


MARK KOEPF

MARK KARA


MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ


LISA WINSTEAD


WILLIAM PERRYMAN