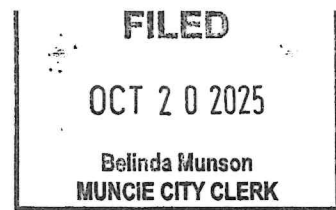


RESOLUTION NO. 18-25



**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MUNCIE, INDIANA,
RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF CIVILITY, CONDEMNING HATEFUL
RHETORIC AND PROMOTING UNITY IN COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

WHEREAS, the City of Muncie values the dignity of every person, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, disability, immigration status, or political affiliation;

WHEREAS, hateful rhetoric refers to speech that expresses hate or encourages violence towards individuals or groups based on characteristics such as race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or based on affiliation with certain groups or organizations;

WHEREAS, hateful rhetoric and divisive speech undermines the safety, inclusion, and well-being of community members and erodes trust among neighbors;

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Muncie is entrusted by the citizens of Muncie to lead by example, to maintain integrity in office, and to foster an environment of mutual respect;

WHEREAS, individuals appointed to boards and commissions serve as representatives of the the Common Council of the City of Muncie and carry the same duty to uphold civility, integrity, and accountability as elected officials;

WHEREAS, citizens have observed increasing partisanship and a rise in inflammatory rhetoric that escalates tensions and fractures community unity;

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to encourage bipartisan collaboration, respectful dialogue, and accountability from both elected and appointed officials, to strengthen community bonds and to reduce harm caused by hateful language or actions; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Muncie as follows:

Section 1: The Common Council affirms that hateful and divisive rhetoric has no place in public leadership and condemns such rhetoric whenever it arises.

Section 2: The Common Council recognizes that acknowledging hateful and divisive rhetoric and behavior is a first step toward healing and unity for our community.

Section 3: The Common Council understands that the integrity of public service demands leaders — whether elected or appointed to boards and commissions — serve all citizens, lead beyond partisan lines, and avoid language or actions that degrade or dehumanize.

Section 4: The Common Council is committed to condemning hateful speech and setting a civil tone in discourse for the community.

Section 5: The Common Council and its appointees to boards and commissions will:

- (a) commit to upholding civility and refrain from engaging in hateful rhetoric;
- (b) consider civility and propensity to engage in hateful and divisive rhetoric in making appointments to boards and commissions, and in making decisions regarding continued service of appointees on boards and commissions; and
- (c) work with local organizations, including faith-based groups, civic associations, schools, and nonprofits to build understanding, connection, and opportunities for cross-group dialogue.

Section 6: This resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption by the Common Council of the City of Muncie.

Adopted by the Common Council of the City of Muncie, Indiana this 3rd day of November, 2025.

	Yeas	Nays	Abstained	Absent
Jeff Green	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Nora Powell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brandon Garrett	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sara Gullion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jerry Dishman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Harold Mason	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dale Basham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ro Selvey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
William McIntosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Harold Mason
President Muncie Common Council

Presented by me to the Mayor for his approval, this 3rd day of November, 2025.

Belinda Munson

Belinda Munson, Muncie City Clerk

The above Resolution is approved vetoed by me this 3 day of November, 2025.

Dan Ridenour

Dan Ridenour, Mayor of the City of Muncie

ATTEST:

Belinda Munson

Belinda Munson, Muncie City Clerk

This Resolution is proposed by Council Member Ro Selvey

This Resolution is approved in form by Legal Counsel Tamara J. Hume