

Proposed: 12/07/2020

RESOLUTION NO. 138-2020 (PSH)

By Council Member

A Resolution to encourage effective plans to address climate change, a pressing problem already affecting Cleveland Heights; and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, climate scientists worldwide are in near-unanimous agreement that the earth is warming rapidly and to a degree that is perilous to human civilization, to numerous species, and to the global ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, human activity is a significant contributor to climate change, especially through the accelerating combustion of fossil fuels that create carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases as a byproduct; and

WHEREAS, climate change poses a serious threat to the United States, including the City of Cleveland Heights, in terms of the economy, public health, and environment; and

WHEREAS, zero-emissions power generation is a necessary cornerstone to addressing climate change; and

WHEREAS, our Country needs Congress to negotiate legislation to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, make strategic investments that improve America's infrastructure and power generation, reward initiative, support innovation, create jobs, and assist those harmed by economic dislocation; and

WHEREAS, climate change also requires solutions at the local level such as adding roof-top solar installations to municipal, commercial and residential buildings so as to reduce dependency on the power grid; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Ohio and the Ohio Revised Code, municipalities have the power of local self-government, and the power to enact laws that are for the health, safety, and welfare of its residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. This Council hereby resolves to continue to move the City of Cleveland Heights towards zero-emissions electricity through wise use of energy-saving measures and through addition of equipment to generate or purchase zero-emission power for City use.

SECTION 2. Notice of the passage of this Resolution shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

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SECTION 3. The Clerk of Council is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to President Donald Trump, Vice-President Michael Pence, President-Elect Joseph Biden Jr., Vice-President-Elect Kamala Harris, Governor Mike DeWine, U.S. Representative Marcia Fudge, U.S. Senators Sherrod Brown and Rob Portman, State Senator Sandra Williams, and State Representative Janine Boyd.

SECTION 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the inhabitants of the City of Cleveland Heights, such emergency being the need to express encouragement for effective plans to address climate change at the earliest time possible. Wherefore, provided it receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more of the members elected or appointed to this Council, this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest time allowed by law.

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JASON S. STEIN, Mayor  
President of Council

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AMY HIMMELEIN  
Clerk of Council

PASSED: