



RESOLUTION

IN AFFIRMATION OF THE OATH OF OFFICE AND REGARDING A COMMITMENT TO RESPECT, PRESERVE, AND ENFORCE THE SECOND AMENDMENT (UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION) AND ART.I, § 13 (VIRGINIA CONSTITUTION)

WHEREAS the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, § 15.2-1522 provides that every elected City officer, unless otherwise provided by law, on or before the day on which his term of office begins, shall qualify by taking the oath prescribed by § 49-1;

WHEREAS the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, § 49-1 prescribes the Oath of Office of the members of the Council of the City of Martinsville, Virginia, as follows: I do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and that I will faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties incumbent upon me as an elected member of the City Council according to the best of my ability, so help me God;

WHEREAS the Constitution of the United States at Amendment II expressly states that a well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed;

WHEREAS the Constitution of Virginia at Article I, § 13 expressly states that a well regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the proper, natural, and safe defense of a free state, therefore the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed;

WHEREAS there is concern that unconstitutional or unlawful legislation, which infringes upon the rights of the citizens to keep and bear arms under the Constitutions of the Commonwealth of Virginia (Article 1, § 13) and the United States (Amendment II), may be introduced in the legislative sessions of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia and/or the United States Congress; and,

WHEREAS there is concern that unconstitutional or unlawful executive and administrative action or enactments, which infringe upon the rights of the citizens under the Constitutions of the Commonwealth of Virginia (Article 1, § 13) and the United States (Amendment II), are being considered by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia and/or the offices and agencies under his control.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED
BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA THAT:**

1. As a body collective, the Council hereby affirms the Oath of Office pursuant to the Code of Virginia (1950), as amended, § 49-1 committing to support the Constitution of the United States, and the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to faithfully and impartially discharge all the duties incumbent upon the Council to the best of its ability; and
2. While nothing in this Resolution is intended to declare any intent or effectuate any act, present or prospective, by the Council or any City officer or employee in contravention of law, including but not limited to Va. Code Ann., §18.2-91, this Council nevertheless expresses its commitment by any and all legal means to Respect, Preserve, and Enforce the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States and Article 1, § 13 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Virginia to the fullest extent permitted by law; and,
3. The Council express its commitment to oppose unconstitutional and unlawful legislation and proposed restrictions that infringe upon the right of its citizens to keep and bear arms through any and all legal means, as may be expedient, including without limitation by court action.
4. The City of Martinsville supports the "Second Amendment Sanctuary" movement.

Adopted this 10th day of December, 2019.

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Attest:



Karen Roberts, Clerk of Council