RESOLUTION NO. R 2022-02

A RESOLUTION OPPOSING LEGISLATION REGARDING THE BUSINESS PROPERY TAX OF THE CITY OF MISHAWAKA

WHEREAS, the Indiana Legislature proposed changes to the depreciation floor and other aspects of Indiana's business personal property tax as a priority in their 2022 Legislative Agenda; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Mishawaka opposes all legislation that contemplates eliminating any portion of the personal property tax without permanent FULL replacement guaranteed by the State of Indiana; and,

WHEREAS, any contemplated revenue replacement must be a source of revenue that continues to grow over time just as a property tax base would in order to allow growing communities to meet the demand for services; and,

WHEREAS, a permanent state tax credit applied to ALL proposed business personal property tax reductions, holidays, phase-outs, etc., could eliminate unnecessary burden on local government in order to continue building healthy Indiana communities; and,

WHEREAS, the personal property tax is a relied upon method for funding local government; and,

WHEREAS, for taxing units not at the caps, a reduction in the tax base could result in property owners paying more in residential property taxes. For those communities at the caps, any phase-out of the business personal property tax means a loss in revenue for local units of government; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Mishawaka in St. Joseph County would lose an estimated \$3 million in tax revenues; and,

WHEREAS, significantly reducing the business personal property tax will have a dramatic impact on the City of Mishawaka and with the reduction in TIF revenue, significant projects will be pushed back or canceled altogether; and,

WHEREAS, Public Safety: Police, Fire and EMS utilize 46% of the City of Mishawaka's General fund. The reduction in the business personal property tax could have an impact on Public Safety for the City of Mishawaka affecting residents, businesses and surrounding communities; and,

WHEREAS, The Tax Foundation 2022 State Business Tax Climate Index lists Indiana as number one ranking for property tax; and,

WHEREAS, Indiana consistently ranks in the top states with an attractive business tax climate, yet a community's quality of life is an increasingly greater influencer of business relocation and growth decisions; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Mishawaka that we hereby oppose all legislation that contemplates eliminating any portion of the business personal property tax without full and permanent replacement guaranteed by the State of Indiana.

This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption by the Common Council and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED by the Common Council of the City of Mishawaka, Indiana, this

21st day of February, 2022, at 7:08 o'clock P.m.

Pale "Woody" Emmons,
Dale "Woody" Emmons,
1st District

Mike Bellovich, 2nd District

Anthony "Fony" Hazen,
3rd District

Kate Voelker, 4th District

S. Michael Compton,
5th District

Deborah S. Block, IAMC, MMC City Clerk David/A. Wood, Mayor