

RESOLUTION NO. 16-21 (5th Amended)

A RESOLUTION TO CREATE A YOUTH CITY COUNCIL ADVISOR POSITION

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette is home to civically engaged youth; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of West Lafayette acknowledges that youth are the future of our planet, and their opinions and concerns should be taken into consideration when making decisions regarding their future; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette works to encourage youth participation and to truly listen to youth input; and

WHEREAS, West Lafayette recognizes the climate crisis as a public health threat, national security threat, and threat to future generations; and

WHEREAS, other municipalities, such as Goshen, use youth advisor positions on the city council to inject fresh ideas and youth perspectives into local decision making; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette passed Res. No. 12-19 with a commitment to engage in education and outreach, thus the youth advisor will help promote community service and foster a better understanding of how municipal government works; and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes that establishing a Youth Advisor position to serve as an advisory position to the City Council will empower youth, give them opportunities for input on projects, programs, and events, and afford them opportunities to have influence and impact on issues and decisions they care about; and

WHEREAS, Ind. Code § 36-4-13-1 et seq. allows the presiding officer of a municipality to appoint a youth advisor; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Lafayette finds that the establishment of a Youth Advisor position will promote the health, safety, and general welfare of the West Lafayette community; and

WHEREAS, The Go Greener Commission recently appointed a youth commissioner and recommended that the City consider a youth position.

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

Section 1: The presiding officer of the Common Council of the City of West Lafayette shall appoint an individual who meets all the following criteria to serve as Youth Adviser to the City of West Lafayette's Common Council:

Subsection a: Is a high school Sophomore, Junior, or Senior, or the equivalent academic standing, of all forms of schooling, to serve as an advisor to the City Council on matters affecting youth in the community;

Subsection b: Individual will complete the application process and applications will be available annually on the City website;

Subsection c: Individual will be in good academic standing.

Subsection d: Reside in West Lafayette

Section 2: The Youth Advisor is not a member of the official legislative body.

Subsection a: The Youth Advisor can attend all Council gatherings to advise the councilors of how their decisions and vote on certain legislation will impact the future of the youth;

Subsection b: The input provided by the Youth Advisor may be considered in decision making, and their comments are documented in the meeting minutes.

Section 3: The Youth Advisor's role will include:

Subsection a: Making specific recommendations for youth programs and activities to City Council and government operations;

Subsection b: Serving as a forum for youth to share the expansion of ideas, needs, concerns, and goals relating to community issues particularly as they may affect youth;

Subsection c: Making recommendations to enhance the range and quality of opportunities for young people (the youth community);

Subsection d: Enlisting community-wide participation in assuming the responsibility for resolving youth concerns;

Subsection e: Initiating and encouraging youth-driven community service projects.

Section 4: The Youth Advisor shall serve for a term of one academic year, August to May.

INTRODUCED ON FIRST READING ON THE 7 DAY OF September, 2021.

MOTION TO ADOPT MADE BY COUNCILOR DeBoer, AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR Kang.

DULY RESOLVED, PASSED, AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA, ON THE 7 DAY OF September, 2021, HAVING BEEN PASSED BY A VOTE OF 6 IN FAVOR AND 0 OPPOSED, THE ROLL CALL VOTE BEING:

	AYE	NAY	ABSENT	ABSTAIN
Blanco			✓	
Brown	✓			
Bunder	✓			
DeBoer	✓			
Kang	✓			
Leverenz	✓			
Parker	✓			
Sanders			✓	
Thomas			✓	


 Peter Bunder, Presiding Officer

Attest:

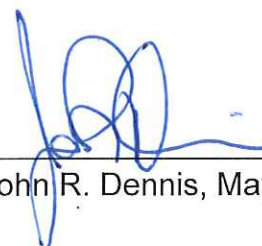

 Sana G. Booker, Clerk



PRESENTED BY ME TO THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA ON THE 8 DAY OF September, 2021.


 Sana G. Booker, Clerk

THIS RESOLUTION APPROVED AND SIGNED BY ME ON THE 8 DAY OF September, 2021.


 John R. Dennis, Mayor

Attest:


Sana G. Booker, Clerk

