

RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR SPARTA FREE LIBRARY EXPANSION

WHEREAS, the Common Council for the City of Sparta recognizes that the Sparta Free Library has been a valued community resource throughout its enduring history, pre-dating the 1902 construction made possible by a grant from Andrew Carnegie, and the 1982 expansion, that together comprise the current facility,

WHEREAS, the Common Council for the City of Sparta recognizes that the continued mission of the Sparta Free Library is to be a place of community connection and shared cultural experiences, where the public can engage in a variety of activities and interests, enrich their lives, and become enlightened through literacy, discovery, and lifelong learning,

WHEREAS, the Common Council for the City of Sparta recognizes that Sparta Free Library has outgrown its current space due to increasing municipal population, a larger offering of library programs, resources, and services, as well as the need to keep up with community expectations and expanding roles of libraries in the 21st century,

WHEREAS, space needs assessments, library standards, and extensive community input have identified library facility needs as: programming spaces, public meeting spaces, instructional spaces, study rooms, additional technology, ADA accessibility and public restrooms on both levels,

WHEREAS, the Library Board has invested private donations to commission the work of architectural firm FEH Design in an extensive information-gathering process, resulting in the development of conceptual drawings that address identified facility needs while expanding the existing structure in the current location,


WHEREAS, the Common Council for the City of Sparta recognizes that an expanded library would strongly enhance the quality of life in Sparta by providing additional space, materials, programs and technology for people of every age...for today and the future,

WHEREAS, after conducting a fundraising feasibility study with the Sweeney Group, the Library Board pledges to demonstrate community support by launching a fundraising campaign with the goal of raising thirty percent of the total cost of a library expansion project,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Common Council for the City of Sparta pledges support for a future library expansion not to exceed seventy percent of the total cost, assuming the private fundraising goal is achieved, and the timeline of the project is in accordance with continued City strategic and fiscal planning.

Dated this 19th day of September, 2018.

APPROVED BY:



Ronald Button, Mayor