

CITY OF EASTPOINTE
County of Macomb, State of Michigan

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1974

A RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 6TH AS FIRST AMENDMENT DAY IN THE CITY OF EASTPOINTE

WHEREAS, Mary Hall Rayford, Karen Beltz, Karen Mouradjian and Cynthia Federle filed a lawsuit against the City of Eastpointe and former Mayor Monique Owens.

WHEREAS, the lawsuit alleged violations of the First and Fourteenth Amendments of the United States Constitution arising out of Ms. Hall Rayford, Ms. Beltz, Ms. Mouradjian and Ms. Federle's criticism of Mayor Owens during public participation periods of City of Eastpointe City Council Meetings.

WHEREAS, the City of Eastpointe recognizes that during public participation periods at City of Eastpointe City Council Meetings, members of the public may direct and/or express comment, criticism and/or praise regarding the works and/or actions of any public official subject to reasonable, time, place and manner restrictions.

WHEREAS, the City of Eastpointe recognizes that the comments made by Ms. Hall Rayford, Ms. Beltz, Ms. Mouradjian and Ms. Federle during the public participation periods of the City of Eastpointe City Council Meeting were protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and that curtailing those communications would be contrary to the rights of free speech and public expression which the City of Eastpointe intends to fully embrace and foster.

NOW, THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. The City of Eastpointe through its City Council hereby recognizes September 6th as First Amendment Day.
2. The City of Eastpointe City Council hereby recognizes that during public participation periods at City of Eastpointe City Council Meetings members of the public may direct and/or express comment, criticism, and/or praise to and regarding public officials and on any matter of public concern.
3. The City of Eastpointe City Council hereby recognizes the importance of First Amendment rights and the right to public debate and encourages members of the public to actively participate at City of Eastpointe City Council Meetings during public participation periods.

4. Further, the City of Eastpointe hereby apologizes for the events of the March 22, 2022 and September 6, 2022 City of Eastpointe City Council Meetings, which curtailed the First Amendment rights of Mary Hall Rayford, Karen Beltz, Karen Mouradjian, and Cindy Federle.

CERTIFICATION

I, Mariah Walton, City Clerk for the City of Eastpointe, Macomb County, Michigan, do hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 24-1974 was offered by Councilmember _____, and seconded by Councilmember _____, and that the same was duly passed at a meeting of said City Council on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, and that the vote was as follows:

Yeas:
Nays:
Absent:

Mariah Walton
City Clerk