

Resolution 11-23

A Resolution urging the legislative branches of the federal government as well as the State of Ohio, to enact legislation to further protect the citizens of the City of Orrville, Ohio, from the inherent dangers of a train derailment on the tracks located at or near our City and declaring an emergency.

WHEREAS, the City of Orrville has commercial train tracks located throughout the city, and

WHEREAS, certain train operators operate on our train tracks, twenty-four (24) hours of the day, seven (7) days a week, known commonly as Amtrak, BNSF Railway, Canadian National Railway, CSX Transportation, Kansas City Southern Railway, Norfolk Southern Railway, Union Pacific Railroad, Wheeling, as well as other lines, and

WHEREAS, railway derailments have occurred twice in the State of Ohio in the past forty (40) days and said incidents have caused and will continue to cause significant medical and environmental issues to the residents of the communities where the incidents occurred and the incidents caused and will continue to cause serious damage to the infrastructure located at/near the site of the derailments and said incidents have caused and will continue to cause serious damage to the ecosystems at/near the site, and

WHEREAS, rail transport is governed by federal law with little authority or recourse available to local governments. Further regulation of train operators operating in the City of Orrville, relating to the tracks, rail cars, and employees is needed to provide the citizens throughout the State of Ohio with enhanced protection from injury and damage due to future train derailments,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the City of Orrville, State of Ohio that:

SECTION 1: The Council of the City of Orrville finds that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Orrville to pass a resolution urging the Legislative Branches of the Federal government as well as the State of Ohio to enact legislation to further protect our citizens from the inherent dangers of a train tracks located in or near the City of Orrville;

SECTION 2: It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3: This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of said City and this matter is one of urgency due to the recent events in the State of Ohio. Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of at least five (5) members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage by Council and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed this 20th day of March, 2023.



President of Council

Attest:



Clerk of Council

Approved:



Mayor, City of Orrville

3/20/23

Date