

CITY OF NORTHFIELD, MINNESOTA
CITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2019-014

AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRIDGEWATER TOWNSHIP FOR A NEW OR
EXTENDED ORDERLY ANNEXATION AGREEMENT

- WHEREAS, the City of Northfield (the “City”) and Bridgewater Township (the “Township”) previously entered into a Joint Resolution for Orderly Annexation, dated August 25, 1999 (the “Joint Resolution”); and
- WHEREAS, the City highly values the ongoing, long-term, positive working relationship the City has had with the Township through the Joint Resolution for planned, sustainable, municipally-serviced urban and suburban growth and development over the preceding twenty years of the Joint Resolution; and
- WHEREAS, the Joint Resolution by its current terms and conditions is set to expire on December 31, 2019; and
- WHEREAS, the City believes that the existing Joint Resolution has provided a mutually acceptable and defined process for annexations of land experiencing urban or suburban development to the City over the past twenty years and provided certainty to citizens, developers, the Township and the City for when and under what terms and conditions such property owner petitioned and Township approved annexations may proceed; and
- WHEREAS, the City believes that the existing Joint Resolution has ensured that urban and suburban developments will occur in an orderly and planned manner while being provided the City services necessary for such growth and development to occur cost-effectively, efficiently, and in an environmentally protective and sustainable manner; and
- WHEREAS, the City believes that over the long term, urban and suburban growth and development requiring municipal utility services is likely to occur in areas of the Township in close proximity to the City’s boundaries, including specifically the City’s southern boundary, that are located outside the area designated for orderly annexation in the existing Joint Resolution; however the City is willing to consider renewing the existing Joint Resolution on substantially the same terms for a shorter term in order to allow the City and Township to maintain the status quo while working cooperatively to develop a new joint resolution for orderly annexation that designates an expanded area for orderly annexation on mutually acceptable terms; and
- WHEREAS, the Township has requested that the City meet and negotiate terms for a new Joint Resolution for Orderly Annexation to replace the existing Joint Resolution following its expiration on December 31, 2019; and
- WHEREAS, the City desires to build upon this ongoing, positive intergovernmental relationship by negotiating mutually acceptable and beneficial terms and conditions for either a new joint resolution for orderly annexation, or in the alternative, by extending the term of the existing Joint Resolution, with or without substantial modifications to the existing Joint Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL THAT:

1. The City hereby supports and accepts the Township's request to enter into negotiations with the Township to develop mutually acceptable and beneficial terms and conditions for a new joint resolution for orderly annexation, or in the alternative, by extending the term of the existing Joint Resolution, with or without substantial modifications to the Joint Resolution.
2. The City hereby authorizes and directs the City Administrator and Community Development Director, and such other persons as they determine necessary, to develop proposals within parameters set by the City Council and to meet and negotiate with Township representatives regarding the same in order to develop mutually acceptable and beneficial terms and conditions for a new joint resolution for orderly annexation, or in the alternative, by extending the term of the existing Joint Resolution, with or without modifications to the Joint Resolution, and further directs such individuals, together with the Councilors appointed to work with such individuals in an advisory capacity in Paragraph 3 below, to regularly report back to the Council regarding the progress made towards this goal.
3. The Mayor hereby also appoints herself and Councilors Ness and Peterson White to work directly with the designated City staff in an advisory capacity to assist staff on those matters related hereto, including but not limited to, participating in negotiations where such participation is deemed necessary or desirable by City staff. In the event that the designated City staff negotiating team reaches agreement with Township representatives on matters as provided herein, such proposed agreement shall not become effective until after the City Council considers and approves the same and authorizes execution thereof by authorized City representatives.
4. The City Administrator is hereby authorized and directed, as soon as practicable, to send a letter to the Township attaching this resolution and requesting proposed dates, times and locations for the City and Township to begin the above-mentioned negotiations process.
5. The City looks forward to meeting with the Township's representatives for good faith negotiations that will lead to a new joint resolution for orderly annexation, or in the alternative, an extension of the term of the existing Joint Resolution, with or without substantial modifications to the Joint Resolution.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Northfield on this 19th day of February, 2019.

ATTEST

City Clerk

Mayor

VOTE: ___ POWNELL ___ DELONG ___ GRABAU ___ NAKASIAN
 ___ NESS ___ PETERSON WHITE ___ ZWEIFEL