

A RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOR A SAFE HAVEN BABY BOX.

WHEREAS, Ohio's Safe Haven Law legally permits birth parents in crisis to safely, securely, and anonymously surrender their infant up to thirty days old; and

WHEREAS, if the infant is left in a proper "baby box," and, so long as the child has not been abused, the parents will face no legal consequences for making this lifesaving choice; and

WHEREAS, a "baby box" is a ventilated, climate-controlled space in an outside wall of a facility that is staffed with medical professionals or first-responders; and

WHEREAS, the box has a double access feature with both an outside door for the parent to use to place the baby in the box and a second, inside door for medical personnel to safely remove the surrendered baby; and

WHEREAS, once a baby is placed in the box and the outside door closes, a bell sounds inside the facility, and the infant is quickly and safely recovered by responding personnel; and

WHEREAS, the anonymity of a "baby box" makes such a difficult but beautiful decision easier on birth parents, affording peace and protecting them while saving their child's life; and

WHEREAS, at this time, the nearest baby box to the City of Hudson is over 100 miles away; and

WHEREAS, desiring to provide a compassionate and gentle way for a baby in a tenuous situation to safely find a stable home, the Akron Children's Hospital intends to acquire a Safe Haven Baby Box; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson finds that by supporting this project, the health, safety and general welfare of the City and its residents will be improved and preserved; and,

WHEREAS, this project is in the City, the County, and their residents' best interest and will protect and preserve the lives, health and safety of those that are born and live in this community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Hudson, Summit County, Ohio, as follows:

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized to enter a memorandum of understanding with Akron Children’s Hospital wherein the City of Hudson shall contribute at least one-third of the purchase and installation costs up to \$10,000 in connection with the Safe Haven Baby Box at the Emergency Room of the Akron Children’s Hospital.

Section 2. The City Manager and City Engineer are authorized to do all things necessary to implement the memorandum of understanding and the project.

Section 3. The above recitals are fully incorporated herein.

Section 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 5. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED: _____

Jeffrey L. Anzevino, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Resolution 24-37 was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on ____, 2024.

Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council