

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held on the 25th day of January 2022, at 6:00 p.m. local time.

PRESENT: Supervisor Pro-Tem Daniel Opsommer, Clerk Deborah Guthrie, Treasurer Phil Deschaine, Trustees Patricia Jackson, Kathy Sundland, Courtney Wisinski

ABSENT: Supervisor Ron Styka

The following resolution was offered by Trustee Wisinski and supported by Treasurer Deschaine

WHEREAS, Meridian Township acknowledges the contributions of African Americans to the history of the United States and that all people of the United States benefit from the inclusion of African American contributions to US history; and

WHEREAS, In February, Meridian Township recognizes Black History Month as an opportunity to reflect on the contributions of black history to Township history, Michigan history and US history; and

WHEREAS, Meridian Township encourages learning from the past in order to understand and improve the experiences that shape the United States; and

WHEREAS, African Americans engage and serve the United States at all levels of American life including government, military, academia, and industry; and

WHEREAS, During Black History Month Meridian Township acknowledges and commemorates the importance of African American citizenship, engagement and resilience; and

WHEREAS, In Meridian Township, Gilbert Sherman was the first African American to serve on the Township Board, appointed Township Treasurer in 1999. In 2000, Gilbert Sherman was the first African American to run for the office of Treasurer and thus for a Township Board seat; and

WHEREAS, Milton L. Scales was the first African American elected to the Township Board in 2012. He served from 2012-2016; and

WHEREAS, Since 2015, the Meridian Township Board has adopted a recurring commitment to increased diversity in all aspects of Township function, and specifically in it's "Board Goals and Objectives"; and

WHEREAS, In November 2016, Patricia Herring Jackson, became the first African American female elected to the Township Board, as a Trustee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, that Meridian Township commemorates Black History Month to pay tribute to the generations of African Americans who struggled with adversity and to celebrate the accomplishments, contributions, and history of African Americans.

ADOPTED: YEAS: Trustee Wisinski, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Supervisor Pro-Tem Opsommer, Trustees Jackson, Sundland
NAYS: None

Resolution passed unanimously 6-0

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
) ss
COUNTY OF INGHAM)

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified and acting Clerk of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted at a regular meeting of the Township Board on the 25th day of January 2022.



Deborah Guthrie
Meridian Township Clerk