

One-rdg.  X   
P. Hrngs.    
Pgs.  3   
Filed  05-26-20

Sponsored by  City Council

COUNCIL BILL  2020-133  RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION

1 AFFIRMING City Council's commitment to our community that violent and  
2 disrespectful treatment that degrades dignity or disregards human life  
3 will not be tolerated.  
4

5  
6 WHEREAS, on May 25, 2020, George Floyd, an African American man died at  
7 the hands of four Minneapolis, Minnesota, police officers; and  
8

9 WHEREAS, according to reports, one of these officers knelt on Mr. Floyd's neck  
10 for at least seven minutes while Mr. Floyd was handcuffed, lying face down on the street  
11 and begging to breathe while three other police officers appeared to either assist or look  
12 on; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, this apparently unprovoked and intentional act of violence  
15 represents a blatant disregard for the dignity and sanctity of human life; and  
16

17 WHEREAS, the actions of these four Minneapolis, Minnesota, police officers do  
18 not represent the thousands of men and women that serve and protect their respective  
19 communities with the highest level of professionalism, but their action do impact the  
20 relationships between those communities and their police departments; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, this act of intolerable violence and other similar acts that have  
23 occurred across this country in recent years are unpardonable and must serve as a  
24 wake-up call to every human being that recognizes life as both a gift and a human right.  
25

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
27 SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, as follows, that:  
28

29 Section 1 – City Council, the City Manager, Springfield Police Department and all  
30 City employees join with America in sharing its disbelief, sorrow, shame and anger.  
31

32 Section 2 – City Council recognizes that we all come from a common thread as a  
33 single human race and call on our country to recognize the value of human life.  
34

35 Section 3 – City Council fully supports and strongly endorses peaceful unification

36 throughout this country opposing this and similar deplorable acts of violence against  
37 persons of color and those of different ethnicity, religions, beliefs or expressions, both  
38 now and in perpetuity.

39  
40 Section 4 – City Council hereby commits to our community that our organization  
41 does not and will not tolerate, nor accept in any way, the violent or disrespectful  
42 treatment of others that degrades dignity or disregards human life.

43  
44 Section 5 – Furthermore, City Council calls upon our community to join with us in  
45 committing to introspective evaluation of ourselves as public servants, citizens and as  
46 brothers and sisters regarding this event.

47  
48 Section 6 – This Resolution shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

49  
50 Passed at meeting: \_\_\_\_\_

51  
52 \_\_\_\_\_  
53 Mayor

54  
55 Attest: \_\_\_\_\_, City Clerk

56  
57 Filed as Resolution \_\_\_\_\_

58  
59 Approved as to form: Rhonda Lewsader, City Attorney

60  
61  
62 Approved for Council action: Jason R. Hays, City Manager  
63

## EXPLANATION TO COUNCIL BILL 2020 -133

FILED: 05-26-20

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

PURPOSE: To affirm City Council's commitment to our community that violent and disrespectful treatment that degrades dignity or disregards human life will not be tolerated.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On May 25, 2020, George Floyd, an African American man died at the hands of four Minneapolis, Minnesota, police officers. according to reports, one of these officers knelt on Mr. Floyd's neck for at least seven minutes while Mr. Floyd was handcuffed, lying face down on the street and begging to breathe while three other police officers appeared to either assist or look on.

This apparently unprovoked and intentional act of violence represents a blatant disregard for the dignity and sanctity of human life, and the actions of these four Minneapolis, Minnesota, police officers do not represent the thousands of men and women that serve and protect their respective communities with the highest level of professionalism. However, their actions do impact the relationships between those communities and their police departments.

This act of intolerable violence and other similar acts that have occurred across this country in recent years are unpardonable and must serve as a wake-up call to every human being that recognizes life as both a gift and a human right. This Council bill affirms City Council's commitment to our community that such actions will not be tolerated.

Submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jason Gage, City Manager