

**CITY OF TOWN AND COUNTRY
SUBSTITUTE RESOLUTION R07-2019**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN IN SUPPORT OF THE EFFORTS
OF THE MUNICIPAL LEAGUE OF METRO ST. LOUIS TO FORM A BOARD OF
FREEHOLDERS AS AUTHORIZED BY ARTICLE VI; SECTION 30(a) AND 30(b)
OF THE MISSOURI CONSTITUTION**

WHEREAS, the Better Together organization has filed an Initiative Petition to amend Article VI of the Constitution by repealing Sections 30(a), 30(b), 31, 32(a), 32(b), 32(c) and 33 and adopting one new Section to be known as Article VI, Section 30 which would provide for the formation of the Metropolitan City of St. Louis by consolidating St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis, including the municipalities currently located therein;

WHEREAS, the Missouri Constitution currently provides for the formation of a Board of Freeholders as authorized by Article VI; Section 30(a) and 30(b) who shall have the power to consolidate the territories and governments of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis into one political subdivision, to consolidate and reorganize the County governments of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis or to otherwise formulate and adopt any other plan for the partial or complete government of all or any part of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis;

WHEREAS, if a sufficient number of voter signatures are obtained for the Better Together Initiative Petition, the matter would then be put to a vote of the entire State of Missouri, thereby minimalizing the position of the voters in St. Louis County and vesting control of our future with voters outside the affected area to decide for Town & Country and the St. Louis region;

WHEREAS, the Better Together proposal essentially eliminates municipalities as we currently know them by merging under one Metro City government located in downtown St. Louis. This results in losing almost all of the significant municipal responsibilities to include police, courts, public works, tax collection, zoning control, and other important matters of local governance. Municipalities would become known as Municipal Districts and only have control and responsibility for fire protection, planning, parks and trash;

WHEREAS, the Better Together plan calls for most tax revenues other than property and utility tax to be collected and used by the central Metro City Government and may not be available for use by the Municipal Districts, thereby possibly leaving Town & Country with no revenue at all since our current tax levy is zero resulting in the need to establish a levy that would generate the funds necessary to pay administrative overhead, fire protection, planning control, and maintaining our parks;

WHEREAS, residents of Town & Country currently have direct access to their elected Mayor and Ward Aldermen who represent approximately 11,500 and 2,900 people respectfully, whereas under the Better Together plan members of a 33-person elected council—would represent around 40,000 residents, and the Metro Mayor would represent about 1,300,000 residents;

WHEREAS, the Town & Country Police Department is able to react very quickly when needed and conduct many community outreach programs, which often does not happen under a large centralized police department;

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WHEREAS, the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis is proposing the formation of a Board of Freeholders for St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis under the provisions of Article VI; Section 30(a) and 30(b) of the Missouri Constitution;

WHEREAS, such a Board of Freeholders consisting mostly of residents of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis, would take public input, along with input from municipal governments, and make a recommendation regarding the reorganization of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis;

WHEREAS, the recommendation of the Board of Freeholders could include the preservation of many favorable elements of municipal governments and local control;

WHEREAS, the recommendation from the Board of Freeholders would be voted on by only voters in St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis.

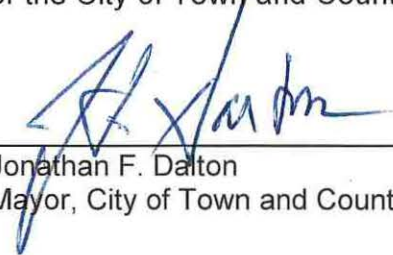
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF TOWN & COUNTRY, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Town & Country support the efforts of the Municipal League of Metro St. Louis to Petition for the formation of a Board of Freeholders as authorized by Article VI; Section 30(a) and 30(b) of the Missouri Constitution; and

Section 2: That the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the City of Town & Country affirm their opposition to any reorganization plan of St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis which:

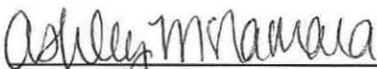
- a. Could eliminate or greatly restrict local government and citizen input which results in the reduction of the quality of services and living conditions provided to Town & Country residents.
- b. Would be voted on state wide rather than just St. Louis County and the City of St. Louis

Passed and approved by the Board of Aldermen for the City of Town and Country, Missouri, this 11th day of March, 2019.



Jonathan F. Dalton
Mayor, City of Town and Country

Attest:



Ashley McNamara, City Clerk.