RESOLUTION TO AMEND CITY COUNCIL RULE 17 REGARDING SIGNS IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER DURING CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

Resolved that,

WHEREAS, the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Warwick are matters of paramount importance to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the business of the City Council is conducted at public meetings; and

WHEREAS, to properly discuss and deliberate matters affecting the citizens of the City of Warwick there must be order and proper decorum at those public meetings; and

WHEREAS, signs and posters detract from the deliberative manner in which City Council meetings should be conducted; and

WHEREAS, existing Council Rule 17 promotes proper decorum at Council meetings by requiring speakers to be recognized before speaking, prohibiting interruption of speakers, confining remarks to the question under debate and prohibiting reference to personalities by speakers; and

WHEREAS, prohibiting signs and posters during City Council meetings would further enhance proper decorum at the meetings.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Warwick City Council hereby amends City Council Rule 17 to add the following provision:

> **RULE 17.** Members desiring to speak shall address the President, and after their right to speak has been recognized, they shall not be interrupted while speaking, except by a call to order, or for the correction of a mistake, or to yield to a member. They shall confine their remarks to the question under debate and shall avoid personalities.
>
> No member shall speak more than once on the same question, until all other members desiring to speak thereon shall have done so. There shall be no conversation among members while a member is speaking, while a roll call is being taken, while any paper is being read or while a question is being stated by the President.
>
> No signs or posters shall be displayed in Council Chambers during City Council meetings. This shall include periods of recess during a meeting.

The City Clerk is hereby directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the City Council Legislative clerk.

This Resolution shall take effect upon passage.

SPONSORED BY: COUNCILWOMAN TRAVIS

COMMITTEE: INTERGOVERMENTAL