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CITY OF WARREN CITY CLERK



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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WARREN CITY CLERK

November 19, 2019

Ms. Sonja Buffa Warren City Clerk

Re:

Veto The Second Action Of The City Council On September 10, 2019 Under Agenda Item 11a, Adopting An Amendment To The Resolution Approving The Continuation Of Health Insurance Coverage With Blue Cross, Blue Care Network, And Blue Cross Medicare Advantage; And Dental Insurance Coverage With Delta Dental And Golden Dental To Include Lifetime Coverage For Elected Officials

Dear Ms. Buffa:

Pursuant to Section 6.8 of the Warren City Charter, I hereby veto the second action of the City Council on September 10, 2019 under Agenda Item 11a, adopting an amendment to the resolution approving the continuation of Health Insurance Coverage with Blue Cross, Blue Care Network, and Blue Cross Medicare Advantage; and Dental Insurance Coverage with Delta Dental and Golden Dental to include lifetime coverage for elected officials.

The initial resolution approved a the Council meeting on September 10, 2019 under Item 11a, to renew dental coverage and the City's "self-insurance" health insurance, was intended to continue existing coverages for city employees. It did provide a lifetime benefit for elected officials. It appears that an amendment was added without discussion, and without a separate motion to amend the 11a item. This was therefore an illegal amendment, which deviated from the intent of the original resolution. This amendment was made in violation of the agreement the city made with the state regarding increasing liability to our pension and health coverage plans as well as violating the requirement that proposed amendment be actuarially evaluated.

Multiple reasons exist as to its enforceability.

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This was an outrageous act by the prior city council members and I feel a united message from both the Mayor and the newly-elected city council is necessary. Though not legally necessary, I request that a vote be taken to rescind the amended resolution regarding lifetime health care for city council members.

While I recognize that more than three days has lapsed since the action taken by the City Council, the result letter was not timely issued and I was never provided a copy of the proposed amendment to the resolution. Accordingly, I respectfully veto the Council's action of September 10, 2019 to adopt the amended resolution under item 11a, and the operation of the resolution is suspended in accordance with Council Charter Section 6.8.

As Mayor of this city, I look forward to working with this council in moving our city forward and protecting the health, safety, welfare, and financial stability of our community.

Respectfully.

James R. Fouts, Mayor City of Warren

cc: City Council