

**DELHI CHARTER TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-003

A RESOLUTION TO JOIN INGHAM COUNTY, THE CITY OF LANSING AND SEVERAL OTHER COUNTIES AND CITIES IN DECLARING RACISM AS A PUBLIC HEALTH CRISIS

At a regular meeting of the Delhi Charter Township Board of Trustees of the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, held at the Community Services Center, 2074 Aurelius Road, Holt, Michigan 48842 on Tuesday, the 21st day of July 2020, at 7: 00 p.m.

PRESENT: Supervisor John Hayhoe, Clerk Evan Hope, Treasurer Roy Sweet, Trustees Pat Brown, Stuart Goodrich, Tom Lenard, DiAnne Warfield

ABSENT: None

The following Resolution was offered by Clerk Hope and seconded by Trustee Warfield:

WHEREAS, race is a social construction with no biologic basis; and

WHEREAS, racism is a social system with multiple dimensions, including individual racism, which is internalized or interpersonal; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism, which is institutional or structural, is a system of structuring opportunity and assigning value based on the social interpretation of how one looks; and

WHEREAS, systemic racism unfairly disadvantages some individuals and communities, unfairly advantages other individuals and communities, and depletes the strength of the whole society through the waste of human resources; and

WHEREAS, racism, including unconscious and conscious bias, causes persistent racial discrimination in Criminal Justice, Social Capital, Voter Suppression, Education, Transportation, Employment, Food Access, Mental Health and Health Behaviors, Socioeconomic Status, Environmental Exposure, Access to Health Services, Housing, and Public Safety; and

WHEREAS, older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions are at higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, Black people have higher incidence of chronic illnesses than other races causing them to die from COVID-19 at a higher rate of white people; and

WHEREAS, Black people are disproportionately suffering in-part due to long standing, unaddressed health disparities as well as systemic racism and other socioeconomic inequities.

WHEREAS, the American Public Health Association, National Association of County and City Health Officials, and the American Academy of Pediatrics have declared racism as a public health crisis, this Board believes that now is the time to do the same. The disparities caused by racism that we have outlined in this resolution represent a public health crisis which affects us all; and

WHEREAS, We as a local governmental body have a responsibility to ensure an optimal quality of life for all of our residents. Delhi Township will assess our current and proposed ordinances and policies, as well as their implementation, to promote health and equity for Black people within Delhi Township. This includes examining and improving our own internal operations and procedures, including all members of boards, commissions, and staff. We commit to collaborating regionally to help identify and implement solutions that strategically reduce the long-term impact racism has on the quality of life and health of all our residents; and

WHEREAS, Delhi Township desires to promote an environment that embraces diversity and actively seeks inclusiveness for all who live, work, or raise a family in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF DELHI, INGHAM COUNTY, MICHIGAN, That the members of the Delhi Township Board declare racism as a public health crisis and recommit our full attention to continuing to improve the quality of life and health outcomes for all our residents through reforms that support eliminating health inequities and promoting social justice; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to Governor Gretchen Whitmer, DHHS Director Robert Gordon, Speaker of the House Lee Chatfield, Senate Majority Leader Mike Shirkey, State Senator Curtis Hertel Jr., State Representative Kara Hope and the Michigan Townships Association.

AYES: Lenard, Sweet, Warfield, Brown, Goodrich, Hayhoe, Hope
NAYS: None
ABSENT: None

The foregoing Resolution declared adopted on the date written above.



Evan Hope, Delhi Township Clerk

STATE OF MICHIGAN)
COUNTY OF INGHAM)§

I, the undersigned, the duly qualified Clerk for the Charter Township of Delhi, Ingham County, Michigan, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of the proceedings taken by the Township Board at a regular meeting held on the 21st day of July 2020.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto affixed my official signature this 22nd day of April 2020.



Evan Hope, Delhi Township Clerk