

BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. _____

DECLARING UNEQUIVOCALLY THAT BLACK LIVES MATTER AND REAFFIRMING WEST EASTON POLICIES AND ORDINANCES THAT PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton strives to be a vibrant and welcoming community, where all people feel protected, included, secure and safe;

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton has adopted policies and ordinances that prohibit discrimination because of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, handicap, sexual orientation, or familial status;

WHEREAS, despite the Borough policies and ordinances, as well as similar state and federal laws, discrimination and racism still exists in our country, our state, and our Borough;

WHEREAS, systemic racism manifests itself both overtly and covertly through examples such as the recent killing of George Floyd by one or more members of the Minneapolis Police Department, social media posts that support racism, the recent rise of white supremacist groups throughout the country, and implicit biases and stereotypes that result in disparate treatment for people of color throughout our country;

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton stands with community members who may have peacefully protested acts of racism, injustice, and inequality;

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton recognizes that some of the Borough's earliest white inhabitants were supportive of segregation and its leaders had enacted ordinances that prohibited equal opportunity for people of color;

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton took steps to remove a pre-existing and unlawful Ordinance that only allowed for a white male to be a Chief of Police;

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton expressly recognizes that the history of the Civil War and the United States should not be forgotten, but that museums and history books are the place to learn about those who took up arms against the Union, or committed crimes against humanity—not prominent monuments on public property that glorify Confederate leaders, or those who committed genocide and horror upon native inhabitants.

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton is committed to combatting systemic racism and ensuring that the Borough continues to be welcoming for all; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of West Easton unequivocally declares that black lives matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by The Borough of West Easton Council:

Black lives matter.

That the Borough reaffirms its anti-discrimination policies and ordinances and commits to working with the community to take all action necessary to create additional anti-racist policies and ordinances that address racism.

BOROUGH OF WEST EASTON

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PA

Attested:

Joan Heebner, Secretary

Matthew A. Dees, Council President

Dan DePaul, Mayor