A Resolution Observing Community Water Fluoridation’s Anniversary

WHEREAS, January 25th of this year [marks/marked] the 70th anniversary of community water fluoridation, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has praised as one of the 10 “great public health achievements of the 20th century”;  

WHEREAS, adding fluoride to water is only one example of adding minerals or vitamins to foods or beverages as a way to prevent disease;  

WHEREAS, even today, with toothpaste and other available sources of fluoride, research shows that fluoridated water reduces the rate of tooth decay by about 25 percent over a lifetime;  

WHEREAS, the average number of decayed, missing or filled teeth for adults (ages 20-34) fell by more than 55 percent between 1966 and 2004, a period when fluoridation rapidly expanded to reach tens of millions of additional Americans;  

WHEREAS, even with this impressive progress, the National Institutes of Health reports that tooth decay is the most common chronic disease for children and adults;  

WHEREAS, having toothaches or other dental problems can disrupt children’s ability to eat, sleep, speak and learn, and—if left untreated—can threaten their overall health;  

WHEREAS, significant dental problems can cause adults to miss days of work or undermine their ability to find a good-paying job in the first place;  

WHEREAS, [name of state] took a leadership role in [year of state law] by enacting a state law that guarantees the public’s access to fluoridated water to help prevent tooth decay;  

WHEREAS, research shows that every $1 spent on fluoridation saves $38 because it reduces the need for fillings, crowns and other dental treatments;  

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the [name of city or county council] reaffirms its support for community water fluoridation; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the [name of city or county council] is proud through community water fluoridation to be playing a positive role that is confirmed by hundreds of studies to be effective at reducing the rate of cavities.

APPROVED on the _____ day of [January/February] in the year 2015.