

Councilmember

introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION #22-005

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE POLICY OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY SUPPORTING THE HEALTH AND SAFETY OF ITS CITIZENS AND EMPLOYEES DURING THE COVID19 PANDEMIC WHILE OPPOSING ANY FORM OF COERCION OR FORCE IN VACCINATION OR SIMILAR HEALTH PROCEDURES IN RESPONSE TO THE COVID19 PANDEMIC IN THE CITY

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey is a Minnesota Charter City with responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of all of its citizens and employees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey is well aware that over the past two years, an international pandemic of what is commonly known as the Covid19 virus has resulted in many deaths throughout the world and many long-term negative effects and ongoing symptoms and difficulties for individuals; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has prompted governments and organizations to expedite and accelerate approval processes for vaccines and medications for the purpose of fighting the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the pandemic has prompted both the Federal and State governments to seek means to compel inoculation as well as requiring other pandemic-related standards and procedures such as mandatory masking in public; and

WHEREAS, the absence of the standard process for approvals of vaccines and other medications has raised reasonable doubts and concerns among many citizens about possible adverse effects or consequences of these vaccines or medications; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey recognizes the fundamental legal right of any individual to refuse any medical procedures, medicines, or vaccinations; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey recognizes that the decision to wear or not wear a protective face mask is one the could have positive or negative benefits to the individual choosing whether to wear one and should be left to that individual's choice and should not result in negative consequences one way or the other when dealing with the City, its agents and employees; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey wishes to state categorically its formal position that any personal decision regarding medical care related to the Covid19 pandemic is exactly that, a personal decision and the City shall not engage in any practice which would in any way discriminate against individuals making such choices, including access to employment or public facilities; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey wishes to declare that it will provide an equal level of service to everyone working, contracting, living and visiting the City of Ramsey without regard to their inoculation status or a personal decision whether or not to wear a mask and believes that providing this equality of service protects the overall health, safety and welfare of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the City of Ramsey wishes to implement the intention of this resolution by requiring its staff to conform policies to this stated declaration recognizing the individual rights of its citizens in the face of this pandemic.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF RAMSEY, ANOKA COUNTY, STATE OF MINNESOTA, as follows:

1. **THAT** it is the stated policy of the City of Ramsey to oppose any government mandate requiring a Covid19 vaccination by an individual who would otherwise choose not to do so.
2. **THAT** it is the stated position and policy of the City of Ramsey that vaccination for Covid 19 is a personal medical decision which every citizen has the right to accept or refuse without precipitating adverse consequences in access to public services or facilities within the City.
3. **THAT** it is the stated position and policy of the City of Ramsey that any individual choice regarding the decision whether or not to be vaccinated for Covid 19 shall never serve as the basis of any decision or action by the City to provide municipal services , municipal facility access or employment by the City to those same individuals within the City of Ramsey.
4. **THAT** it is the stated position and policy of the City of Ramsey to neither prohibit nor require the wearing of face masks on City property or that of any agent or other party acting on the City's behalf, by third parties or the City's employees, as such a decision is the personal decision of each individual.
4. **THAT** it is the stated position and policy of the City of Ramsey that all State and Federal representatives of the City be advised of this action and, further, that the City opposes any attempted imposition of such vaccination mandates, mask mandates or similar restrictions on the liberties of individuals within the City of Ramsey at any time in the future.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Councilmember _____, and upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof:

And the following voted against the same.

And the following abstained

And the following were absent

WHEREUPON SAID RESOLUTION WAS DECLARED DULY PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE RAMSEY CITY COUNCIL THIS _____ DAY OF JANUARY 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk