

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCLEARY, WASHINGTON, EXPRESSING A VOTE OF NO CONFIDENCE IN MAYOR CHRIS MILLER.

RECITALS:

WHEREAS, in 2022, Mayor Miller independently and without McCleary City Council approval, circumvented the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) contract by authorizing overtime for on-call status, resulting in payments made to Officers of over \$109,000.00. Mayor Miller failed to discuss or seek approval from McCleary City Council. When Mayor Miller was questioned, he indicated a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was in progress, indicating this was not current contract language; and

WHEREAS, in 2023 Mayor Miller knowingly violated the Open Public Meetings Act by independently convening the Salary Commission for his personal gain increasing his salary by double. The McCleary City Council learned of his meeting with the Salary Commission at a subsequent City Council meeting in October 2023; and

WHEREAS, between June and August 2023, Mayor Miller wasted public funds by directing an unapproved, unnecessary investigation and removal of debris. This investigation was headed and closed out by the Grays Harbor Environmental Department in 2021 with no further action needed by the City of McCleary. Mayor Miller spent over \$25,000 to remove debris, instructing staff to work outside of normal business hours, in an effort to hide the removal work. Subsequently, Mayor Miller posted in a City Newsletter his intention was to build an orchard to



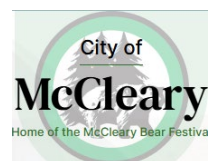
support the food bank, which was never discussed with City staff, or City Council. The orchard was an attempt to justify and cover up the debris removal; and

WHEREAS, between July and August 2023, Mayor Miller directed city employees to pay vouchers the McCleary City Council denied at the July 12th, 2023 City Council meeting. These vouchers were for IT equipment purchased without authorization from the City Council. City Administration staff were unable to provide itemized purchase receipts or provide competitive bidding opportunities that would serve the City's best interest. The amount of the unauthorized purchases totaled over \$103,000.00, with over \$80,000.00 attributed directly to the IT equipment purchases; and

WHEREAS, in December of 2023, a concern was brought to City Administration regarding safety on City property. Rather than using the near miss as a learning opportunity, Mayor Miller opted to investigate and discipline City Staff for reporting the concern, leading to a grievance and ultimately arbitration that cost the City approximately \$15,000. Ultimately, the City did not prevail. The City Council was not consulted in the decision to pursue arbitration; and

WHEREAS, on February 18th, 2025, layoff notices went to two International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) employees. Mayor Miller authored the layoff notices, citing city wide infrastructure failures, however, targeted one department. Mayor Miller failed to follow the IBEW contract, once again, proving Mayor Miller shows disregard for adopted contract language; and

WHEREAS, the McCleary City Council have expressed concern repeatedly regarding Mayor Miller's conduct towards city staff. 31 employees and volunteers have either been terminated or resigned in 38 months, creating an unprecedented turnover rate. Mayor Miller has created an unappealing work environment, costing the City tens of thousands of dollars for



investigations and wrongful termination payouts. The McCleary City Council recognizes the financial burden the City endures, and the emotional stress the staff members take on;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the McCleary City Council recognizes City Council meeting attendance is not required by Mayor Miller, however, Mayor Miller has failed to perform his most basic obligation by attending City Council meetings and keeping his council informed of business operations. Mayor Miller has continuously failed to be transparent in his actions or intentions;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the McCleary City Council deems Mayor Miller unfit for office due to lack of confidence in making informed decisions that serve the best interest of the City of McCleary and our residents.

PASSED this _____ day of February, 2025, by the City Council of the City of McCleary, and signed in authentication thereof this _____ day of February, 2025.

CITY OF McCLEARY:

Brycen Huff, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Jamie Vinyard, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Madison A. Pleasant, City Attorney

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2/19/2025

