



**CITY OF TWO RIVERS
RESOLUTION
AUTHORIZING ACCEPTANCE OF FRIENDSHIP TABLE
SCULPTURE TO BE CREATED BY
CZECH ARTIST VÁCLAV FIALA,
FUNDED THROUGH EFFORTS OF THE
TWO RIVERS-DOMAZLICE SISTER CITIES COMMITTEE
AND PLACED AND MAINTAINED IN A CITY PARK SPACE**

WHEREAS, the City of Two Rivers has since 2017 enjoyed the benefits of a Sister Cities relationship with the City of Domazlice in the Czech Republic—a relationship between our beautiful, lakefront city in the heart of North America and that beautiful, historic city in the heart of Europe born of the World War II experience of Lt. Co. Matt Konop, U.S. Army 2nd Infantry Division, of Two Rivers, who in May 1945 helped liberate that city from which his grandparents had emigrated to Manitowoc County; and

WHEREAS, this friendship between our cities has been furthered through exchange visits by adults and students from the two communities, the most recent in May-June of this year; and

WHEREAS, the arts are an important component of this relationship, with high school music students from both cities participating in concerts with students in their Sister City, the creation of commemorative posters at Two Rivers' Hamilton Museum of Wood Type and Printing, and other activities; and

WHEREAS, in further commemoration of the special, historic relationship between the United States and the Czech Republic, specifically the City of Domazlice, a new memorial, the work of noted Czech artist Vaclav Fiala, was unveiled in Domazlice in June 2021. The sculpture features a granite monolith with the Czech and American flags and a table with a modeled traditional Czech Chod hat and an American Army helmet, plus the inscription "We came not to take anything of yours. We came with an idea: Freedom;" and

WHEREAS, friends of the Two Rivers – Domazlice Sister Cities Committee have recently pursued having artist Fiala create a companion sculpture for placement in Two Rivers, further commemorating the special, historic link between our two communities—that sculpture, in the form of a "Friendship Table" again featuring Chod peasant and American G.I. headgear, is shown in the illustration attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, that committee, operating under the structure of the Two Rivers Historical Society, will take responsibility for contracting with the artist and securing the necessary funds for compensating the artist and shipping the artwork to Two Rivers, but requires the cooperation of the City of Two Rivers in several respects, as hereinafter stated;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Two Rivers hereby makes the following commitments necessary to make this exciting public art addition to our city a reality:

1. To accept ownership and maintenance responsibility for the sculpture upon its arrival in Two Rivers;
2. To allow for placement on City Park property, in a location to be mutually agreed upon by the City and the Sister Cities Committee, in consultation with the artist;
3. To accept, on behalf of the Friendship Table project, a generous donation of 100,000 Czech koruna (currently about \$4,200 U.S.) to the City of Two Rivers, which shall then be forwarded to the Sister Cities Committee for the express purpose of assisting this project, whose total cost is estimated at approximately \$28,000 U.S. plus shipping and installation;
4. To assist the installation of the sculpture here in Two Rivers, by City having City forces install a concrete slab or other foundation that the City Engineer deems reasonable and cost effective, for placement of the sculpture; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City shall not have direct financial responsibility for the creation, fabrication or installation of the Friendship table sculpture, other than to the extent specifically identified herein; and

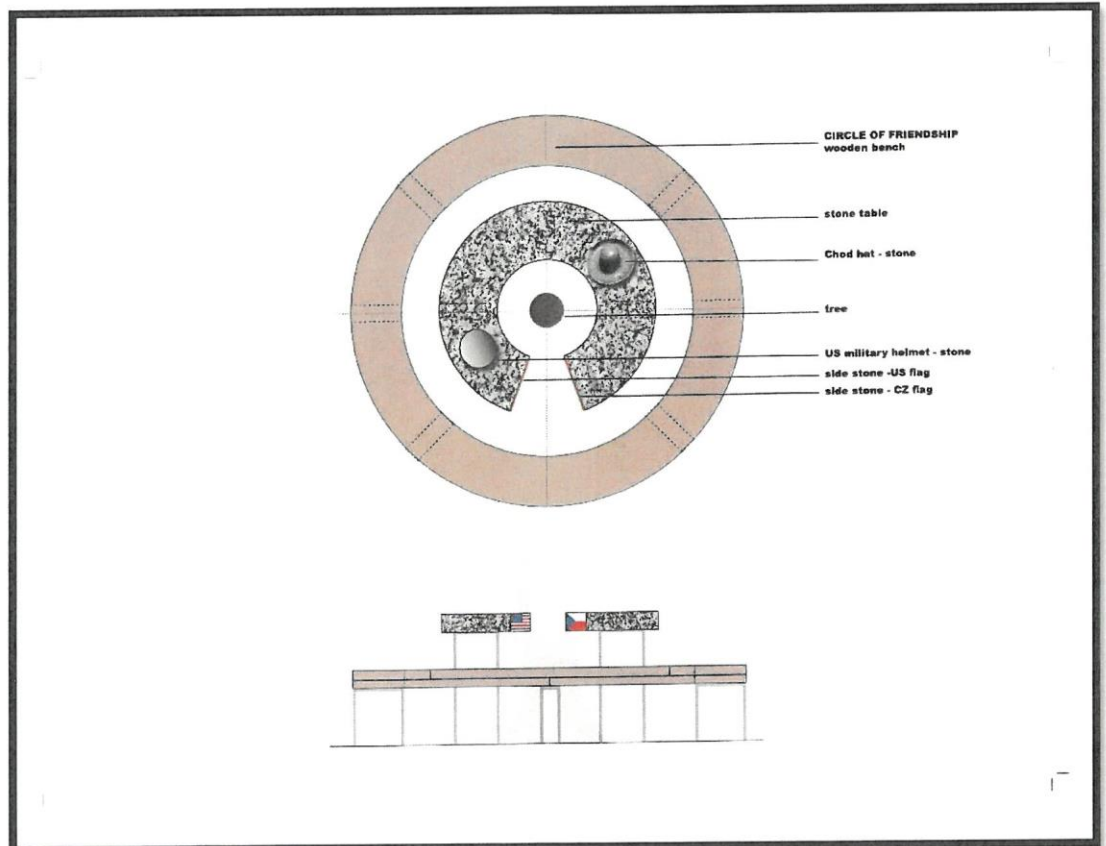
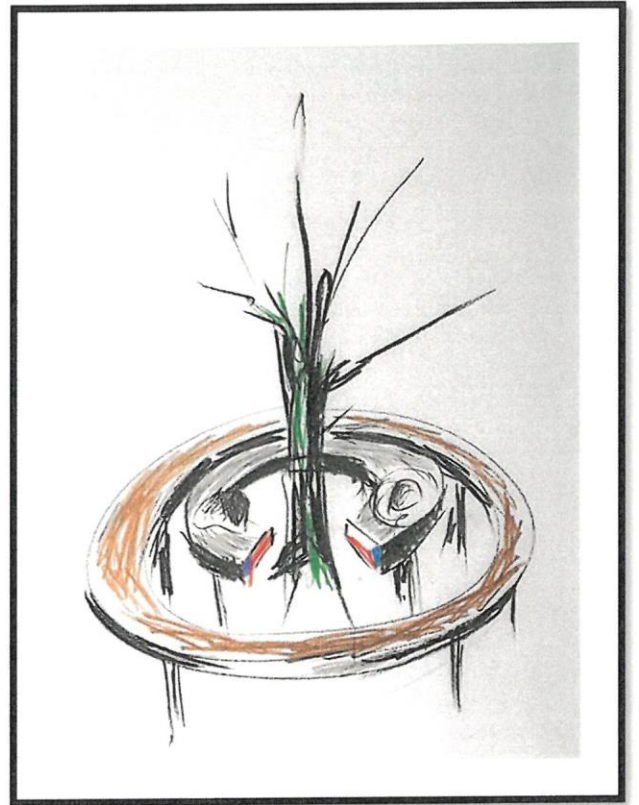
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City encourages community support for this new piece of public art, planned to soon grace Two Rivers and honor our friendship with the people of Domazlice.

Approved this 15th day of August, 2022.

Councilmember

Gregory E. Buckley, City Manager

**PROPOSED
TWO RIVERS
FRIENDSHIP
TABLE**





Two Rivers - USA - 2022

