RESOLUTION NO. R-2020-9 VILLAGE OF SHOREWOOD HILLS CELEBRATION OF 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY ACHIEVEMENT



Whereas, climate change is a real, presents a major threat to human civilization and the natural world, and is caused primarily by the combustion of fossil fuels; and

Whereas, the greatest burden resulting from an inadequate response to the climate crisis will be borne by young people, future generations, and the poorest and most vulnerable communities around the globe; and

Whereas, on April 17, 2017, the Village Board adopted a Climate Change resolution, which acknowledged the threat of climate change and requested that leaders in our State of Wisconsin government encourage local and regional leadership to take strong action to reduce CO₂ emissions; and

Whereas, such Climate Change resolution acknowledged that one such strong action entails a shift away from the utilization of fossil fuels as a power source to renewable energy power sources; and

Whereas, on January 22, 2019, the Village Board approved increasing the Village's purchase of electricity from renewable wind energy power sources from 15% to 50% through Madison Gas and Electric's (MGE) Green Power Tomorrow program; and

Whereas, on July 15, 2019, the Village Board approved the purchase of 522 shares of solar energy from MGE's Shared Solar program, which was estimated to become operational by mid-2020; and

Whereas, on November 18, 2019, upon recommendation from the Ad Hoc Village Sustainability Committee, the Village Board adopted a Sustainability Plan, which set a goal for the Village of obtaining 100% renewable electricity for municipal facilities and operations; and

Whereas, as of August 2020, MGE's Shared Solar Program became operational and the Village began purchasing 50% of its electricity from the program; and

Whereas, through its participation in MGE's Green Power Tomorrow wind power program and Shared Solar program, the Village achieved its goal of powering its municipal facilities and operations with 100% renewable electricity; and

Whereas, the Village is the first village in the State of Wisconsin to achieve 100% renewable electricity; and

Whereas, the Village's purchase of 100% renewable electricity has reduced its annual CO_2 emissions by approximately 600,000 lbs; and

Whereas, the Village continues to look for additional ways to reduce its CO₂ emissions by incorporating measures described in the Climate Change resolution and Sustainability Plan, which could include but are not limited to, making our communities more walkable and bikeable, adding solar panels to municipal facilities; incorporating green infrastructure, replacing Village fleet vehicles with electric vehicles, and reducing Village energy use.

Whereas, the Village encourages residents to explore shared solar or wind energy programs, solar generation, geothermal, or other renewable options available to them to increase their usage of electricity from renewable sources and reduce their own CO₂ emissions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Village of Shorewood Hills celebrate its achievement of 100% renewable electricity, the first village in the State of Wisconsin to do so.

ADOPTED by the Village of Shorewood Hills Board at a duly scheduled meeting on September 21, 2020.

John Imes, President Pro Tem

Karla Endres, Village Clerk