

RESOLUTION # 4-20-2015 # _____

RESOLUTION – MONEY IN POLITICS

WHEREAS, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States is intended to protect the free speech rights of people, and;

WHEREAS, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and;

WHEREAS, the Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision that changed the legal limits on spending in the electoral process created a new and concerning playing field; and allows unlimited spending by individuals, corporations and other entities to influence elections, candidate selection, and policy decisions. The ruling may encourage elected officials to divert their attention from the people's business, in order to ensure competitive campaign funds for their own re-election, and;

WHEREAS, the judicial interpretation that spending money in political campaigns is speech may be contrary to the notion of one person, one vote and allows those with the most money to have an unfair advantage in a political system that should be about ensuring that all citizens have equal access to the political process; and

WHEREAS, money is property, not speech, and;

WHEREAS, people and municipalities across the nation are calling for an Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to address the issues raised in the Citizens United ruling, including Corporate Personhood and Money is not Speech and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ALTOONA CITY COUNCIL that members of the City Council support this movement's goals to make elections fair for all citizens by amending the Constitution; and that all residents of Altoona find ways to continue to champion the long standing commitment of government of, by and for the people.

Passed this 20th day of April, 2015

J.M. Skip Conkling, Mayor

Attest:

Randy Pierce, City Clerk

**Council member _____ introduced and moved for the adoption of
RESOLUTION #4-6-2015 # ____ . Seconded by _____ .**

VOTE:	AYES	NAYS	ABSENT
Boka			
Harmeyer			
Mertz			
O'Connor			
Sloan			