RESOLUTION 12-05

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
CALLING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION ABOLISHING
CORPORATE PERSONHOOD

WHEREAS, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and
We The People’s fundamental and inalienable right to self-govern, and thereby secure rights to life,
liberty, property, and the pursuit of happiness is guaranteed in the US Constitution and the
Declaration of Independence; and

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

WHEREAS, persons are rightfully recognized as human beings whose essential needs include clean
air, clean water, safe and secure food; and

WHEREAS, corporations are entirely human-made legal fictions created by express permission of We
The People and our government; and

WHEREAS, corporations can exist in perpetuity, can exist simultaneously in many nations at once,
need only profit for survival, and exist solely through the legal charter imposed by the government of
We The People; and

WHEREAS, in addition to these advantages, the great wealth of large corporations allows them to
wield coercive force of law to overpower human beings and communities, thus denying We The
People’s exercise of our Constitutional rights; and

WHEREAS, corporations are not mentioned in the Constitution, and The People have never granted
constitutional rights to corporations, nor have We decreed that corporations have authority that
exceeds the authority of We The People of the United States; and

WHEREAS, interpretation of the US Constitution by appointed Supreme Court justices to include
corporations in the term ‘persons’ has long denied We The People’s exercise of self-governance by
endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended for We The People; and

WHEREAS, the illegitimate judicial bestowal of civil and political rights upon corporations usurps basic
human and Constitutional rights guaranteed to human persons, and also empowers corporations to
sue municipal and state governments for adopting laws that violate ‘corporate rights’ even when those
laws serve to protect and defend the rights of human persons and communities; and

WHEREAS, corporations are not and have never been human beings, and therefore are rightfully
subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations; and

WHEREAS, large corporations’ profits and survival are often in direct conflict with the essential needs
and rights of human beings; and

WHEREAS, the recent Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission Supreme Court decision
that rolled back the legal limits on corporate spending in the electoral process creates an unequal
playing field and allows unlimited corporate spending to influence elections, candidate selection,
policy decisions and sway votes, and forces elected officials to divert their attention from The People’s
business, or even vote against the interest of their human constituents, in order to ensure competitive campaign funds for their own re-election; and

WHEREAS, large corporations own most of America’s mass media and use that media as a megaphone to express loudly their political agenda and to convince Americans that their primary role is that of consumers, rather than sovereign citizens with rights and responsibilities within our democracy, and this forces citizens to toil to discern the truth behind headlines and election campaigning; and

WHEREAS, tens of thousands of people and municipalities across the nation are joining with the Move to Amend campaign to call for an Amendment to the US Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfax hereby calls on our federal legislators to join the tens of thousands of citizens, grassroots organizations and local governments across the country in the Move to Amend campaign to call for an Amendment to the Constitution to Abolish Corporate Personhood and return our democracy, our elections, our communities back to America’s human persons and to thus reclaim our sovereign right to self-governance.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Fairfax calls on other communities and jurisdictions to join with us in this action by passing similar Resolutions.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Fairfax supports education to increase public awareness of the threats to our democracy posed by Corporate Personhood, and encourages lively discussion to build understanding and consensus to take appropriate community and municipal actions to democratically respond to these threats.

The foregoing Resolution was duly introduced and adopted at a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Fairfax held on the 11th day of January, 2012, by the following vote:

AYES:  
NOES:  
ABSENT:  

________________________________________
PAM HARTWELL-HERRERO, MAYOR

Attest:

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Judy Anderson, Town Clerk