

Notice of Referendum (Full)

April 1, 2014

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at an election to be held in the Village of Belleville on April 1, 2014, the following question will be submitted to a vote of the people:

VILLAGE OF BELLEVILLE RESOLUTION NO. ____
A RESOLUTION BY THE VILLAGE OF BELLEVILLE
DENOUNCING AND REQUESTING ACTION
TO OVERTURN THE CITIZENS UNITED DECISION

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2010, the United States Supreme Court ruled that local, state, and federal governments cannot regulate corporate financial influence in politics by the precedent-setting 5-4 decision in Citizens United vs. The Federal Election Commission, in which the Court declared that corporations are 'persons' within the meaning of U.S. Constitution and are therefore guaranteed the same rights as natural persons; and,

WHEREAS, concerned citizens and residents of the Village of Belleville, have requested that Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Belleville adopt a written directive to representatives in the Wisconsin State Legislature and in the U.S. Congress, with copies to the President and Governor, requesting action be taken to overturn that decision.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the electors of the Village of Belleville that the Village of Belleville, calls for reclaiming democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate influence, and respectfully requests our representatives in the United States Congress and in the Wisconsin State Legislature to initiate and support an amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which will establish that:

- 1) Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and
- 2) Money is not speech and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that Village staff shall forward this Resolution to appropriate elected and appointed individuals, and any others as deemed appropriate, to provide maximum notice of the Village's action and request hereby.

The above and foregoing Resolution was duly adopted by the electors of the Village of Belleville, Dane and Green County, Wisconsin at an election held on April 1, 2014.

The question will appear on the ballot as follows:

Shall the Village of Belleville adopt the following resolution:

RESOLVED, the Village of Belleville, Wisconsin, calls for reclaiming democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate influence by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

1. Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and
2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.

EXPLANATION

A **“yes”** vote means that you would agree to adopt a Resolution in support of an amendment to the United States Constitution establishing that:

1. Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and
2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.

And a **“no”** vote means you are opposed to adopting a Resolution in support of an amendment to the United States Constitution establishing that:

Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and

1. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech.