



## RESOLUTION

### *Supporting Assembly Bill 622 and Senate Bill 294*

### *Supplemental Funding for Elderly Nutrition Programs*

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**WHEREAS**, the State of Wisconsin Assembly Public Health Committee held a public hearing on Assembly Bill 622, which would provide additional funding for the elderly nutrition programs, including both congregate (noon lunch) and home delivered (Meals-On-Wheels); and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Committee will further consider passage of this bill through a vote in the near future; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Senate Committee on Human Services and Aging will hold a public hearing on Tuesday, January 18, 2000, on Senate Bill 294, regarding the nutrition program and a proposed increase in funding; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Two Rivers is the largest nutrition site in Manitowoc County; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Two Rivers supports staff positions of Head Cook, Assistant Cook, Meals on Wheels/Volunteer Coordinator, as well as the supervision by the Senior Center Supervisor; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1999, the City of Two Rivers served over 10,500 meals in the congregate (noon lunch) program; and

**WHEREAS**, volunteers delivered 9,000 meals to the homebound residents of Two Rivers in 1999, donating personal vehicle usage and time of over 1300 hours to deliver these meals; and

**WHEREAS**, seven days per week, 365 days per year, homebound residents receive a hot meal and a reassuring visit on a daily basis; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Two Rivers provided over 5,200 complete meals for a satellite nutrition site (Mishicot) three days per week; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Two Rivers is reimbursed \$3.04 per meal, which must cover the cost of all services, staff, and food costs; and

**WHEREAS**, the senior citizens and disabled recipients of this service are unable, for different reasons, to provide a complete, balanced diet for themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, it is our belief that providing a nutritious balanced diet prevents further medical expenses and prevents the need for full-service nursing home care; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council annually supports this program through budget measures, but rising food costs and staff costs, without an increase in compensation continually puts this program at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, the Public Health Committee of the Assembly of the State of Wisconsin, is currently considering 1999 Assembly Bill 622, and the Committee on Human Services and Aging of the State of Wisconsin Senate is currently considering Senate Bill 294, which will provide needed supplemental funding in the amount of \$1,075,000 per year in fiscal year 1999-00 and 2000-01; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been years since an increase has been given to those providing direct service to the elderly and disabled for even the cost of food, despite annual increases in the food;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Two Rivers hereby expresses its support for AB622 as part of its continuing advocacy to allow senior citizens and disabled persons to remain with dignity in their own homes as long as they are able; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council hereby also expresses its support for Senate Bill 294 as a way of allowing senior citizens and disabled persons to maintain their independence; and

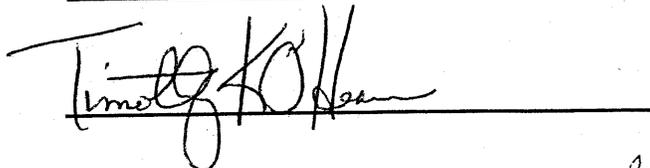
**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Council urges both the Public Health Committee and the Committee on Human Services and Aging to appropriate the funds and to ensure that the funds go to the providers of the service rather than governmental agencies for administrative costs; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that copies of this resolution be furnished to Senator Robson, Chairperson of the Committee on Human Services and Aging and all members of that committee, Representative Frank Urban; Chair of the Public Health Committee and all members of that committee, as well as State Senator Alan Lasee, Representative Frank Lasee and Governor Thompson, to urge their support of this bill and to inform them of the City's position on this matter.

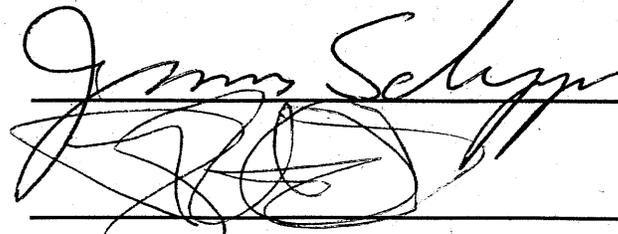
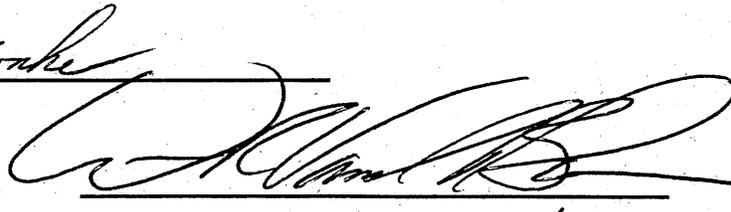
Dated this 17th day of January, 2000.



Neal D. Novachuk



Anne M. DeSantis



Kenneth Swab