

**CITY OF CLOVERDALE
CITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION NO. 054-2018**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLOVERDALE CONDEMNING THE TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION'S ZERO TOLERANCE IMMIGRATION POLICY OF SEPARATING CHILDREN FROM
THEIR PARENTS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER**

WHEREAS, every man, woman, and child from every language, race, and nation is entitled to equal protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, longings to protect one's family from warfare, violence, disease, extreme poverty, and other destitute conditions are universal, driving millions of people to leave their homelands to seek a better life for themselves, their children, and their grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, the policy of separating children from their parents, especially asylum seekers, for the sole purpose of discouraging immigration is callous, un-American, and a violation of United States and international law; and

WHEREAS, separating children from their parents and placing them in dubiously closed facilities has caused permanent psychological and physical trauma; and

WHEREAS, the law of the United States and international law mandate that we treat immigrants with the same respect and dignity as those who are native born; and

WHEREAS, as a nation of immigrants, new immigrants are key to our continued economic growth and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, untold numbers of men and women seeking to enter the United States legally, desiring to become good citizens of our country, often languish at the borders due to the complexity of our immigration system; and

WHEREAS, repeated, urgent outcry from our communities and our state to our federal governing authorities to prioritize efforts to secure the borders and to hold businesses accountable for hiring practices as they relate to immigration status have been met with inaction; and

WHEREAS, repeated requests to our federal governing authorities to implement, with the borders secured, a just and compassionate path to legal status, with appropriate restitution measures, for those undocumented immigrants already living in our country have been met with inaction and malfeasance; and

WHEREAS, after several years of continued policy gridlock, there have been no substantive changes in the immigration system that would make it more just, humane, efficient, and orderly; now; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that City of Cloverdale on this 14th day of August, 2018, affirm the value and dignity of immigrants, regardless of their race, religion, ethnicity, culture, national origin, or legal status; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we desire to see immigration reform include an emphasis on securing our borders and providing a pathway to legal status with appropriate restitutionary measures, maintaining the priority of family unity, resulting in an efficient immigration system that honors the value and dignity of those seeking a better life for themselves and their families; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we declare that any form of nativism, mistreatment, or exploitation is inconsistent with our core values; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we encourage all elected officials, cities, and community organizations, to do everything in their power to advocate for a just and equitable immigration system, and for those in the professional community to seek ways to administer just and compassionate care for the immigrants in their community; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we affirm that all immigrants are entitled to be treated with dignity, respect, and rights accorded them under the law.

It is hereby certified that the foregoing Resolution No. 054-2018, was duly introduced and duly adopted by the City Council of the City of Cloverdale at its regular meeting held on the 14th day of August 2018, by the following roll call vote: (Ayes- 5; Noes-0; Absent-0; Abstain- 0)

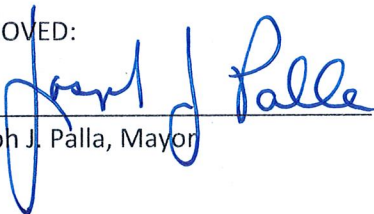
AYES: Councilmember Bagby, Vice Mayor Russell, Councilmember Brigham,
Councilmember Wolter, and Mayor Palla

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:



Joseph J. Palla, Mayor

ATTESTED:



Linda Moore, Deputy City Clerk



Agenda Item: 9
Meeting Date: Aug. 14, 2018

Agenda Section Consent	Staff Contact Kevin Thompson, Assistant City Manager / Comm. Dev. Director
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Agenda Item Title

Proposed adoption of Resolution No. 054-2018, condemning the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance” immigration policy at the southern border.

Introduction

This item is a request that the City Council approve and adopt a Resolution stating its opposition to the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance” immigration policy of separating migrant children from their parents at the southern border.

Background

In April of 2018, the Trump Administration enacted a zero tolerance immigration policy. This policy requires prosecution of people arriving illegally at the border and the separation of children from their families. At the July 23, 2018 meeting, during the public comment portion of the agenda, the City Council was asked by a citizen to support a resolution condemning the Trump Administration’s immigration policy described above. The Council directed staff to draft a resolution for consideration on the August 14, 2018, Council agenda. The attached resolution is in response to that direction.

The City received correspondence from Bob Bialon, expressing his belief that it would be ill-advised for a City Council to condemn a Federal Body, elected official or Law by a City resolution. This correspondence is attached.

Options

1. Do not adopt resolution.
2. Provide alternative direction to staff.

Budget/Financial Impact

None.

Subcommittee Recommendation

None.

Recommended Council Action

Approve City Council Resolution No. 054-2018, Approving a resolution condemning the Trump Administration’s “zero tolerance” immigration policy at the southern border.

Attachments:

1. City Council Resolution No. 054-2018
2. Correspondence 7/30/18 from Robert Bialon

I attended part of the July 24th council meeting, where it was agreed to consider a resolution at the next meeting that condemns the Trump Administration when it chose to separate 4,000+ children from their Mothers and/or Fathers who are being detained for crossing our national border illegally.

I want to make three comments prior to the next Council meeting.

First, I voted for President Trump. However, I also found the Trump Administration recent decision very distasteful and impossible to defend. The Trump Administration *should* pay a price for this reckless decision.

Secondly, regardless of our feelings, I think it is extremely ill-advised for a City Council to overtly condemn a Federal Body, elected official or Law by a city resolution because political activism starts to seep-in into local politics. If we condemn the Trump Administration, then

- a. Shouldn't we also condemn the Democratic National Committee ("DNC") because they used questionable tactics to actively help Hillary Clinton beat Bernie Sanders in the primaries? Over 10 million voters were upset. Now, it's only fair to do so.
- b. Shouldn't we also condemn the FBI's announcement of the continuation of the Clinton Probe only 9 days before the election which arguably affected the outcome of our National Election against 63 million voters? Now, it's only fair to do so.
- c. Shouldn't we also condemn Hillary Clinton's Campaign because their associates pushed their still unverified Steele Dossier, funded by them, and used as the primary justification by partisans for four FBI probes to resist, obstruct or unseat a duly elected President through an independent Council investigation and is causing further animosity among our 160 million voters? Now, it's only fair to do so.
- d. Shouldn't we also condemn Trump for his numerous caustic and sarcastic tweets against common Citizens? Now, it's only fair to do so.
- e. Shouldn't we also condemn.....

This list can go on and on and on.... The question at hand is not -Where does it stop-, but -Why should it even begin???

A Council person commented about the Council's precedent resolution on a national issue (ie, Gay Marriage), but this was a positive affirmation from a changing and supportive culture. The big difference is this Trump Administration Resolution is a negative and can be interpreted as partisan, and not necessarily humanitarian, despite how the Resolution is written. The Trump Administration should pay the price *at the Polls*, but not through a local City Council's condemnation.

Finally, if the Council feels compelled to act, then please present a totally non-partisan motion that represents Cloverdale's Democrats *and* Republicans. Include the Congress in the condemnation as Democrats and Republicans have failed since 1986 to compromise and pass any meaningful comprehensive immigration reform (ie, DACA, civil vs criminal, 20-day deadline for children, etc.) that addresses our country's lingering issues.

Thank you for your time.

Robert Bialon

Cloverdale