

RESOLUTION NO. 15-1988

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS IN THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS; TO BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON ITS PASSAGE AND APPROVAL.

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Abilene, in order to secure to themselves and their descendants the benefits and advantages of controlling their own affairs, have established a home rule municipal government by charter, adopted by a vote of the electorate; and

WHEREAS, such charter establishes a representative form of government with the City Council being selected by the voters to carry out the public will and act as trustees for the citizens with the duty and responsibility to run public affairs effectively and economically; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the firm opinion that the fiscal responsibility for the City should rest in the hands of those elected by the citizens and that therefore, wages, working conditions, and other benefits should be determined by the elected officials rather than by an arbitrator or a judge; and

WHEREAS, this City Council is of the opinion that the proper management of the budget of the City of Abilene requires that the wages and benefits going to all employees should be considered together and that no one particular group should be singled out for special treatment; and

WHEREAS, collective bargaining and public employee unions are deemed by the City Council as being especially inappropriate for police and fire personnel who are already guaranteed job security, sick pay, injury pay and three weeks vacation by state civil service law, workers' compensation, death benefits, survivor benefits, and longevity pay by other state laws, in excess of the benefits enjoyed by other municipal employees; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that a grant of collective bargaining rights to the Police and Fire Associations would result in a diversion of tax money from other public priority areas, including pay for other municipal employees, garbage collection services, streets, emergency medical and improvements to parks, and will ultimately increase the tax burden of every citizen of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1: THAT this City Council does here and now go on record as opposed to the granting of collective bargaining to the Abilene Police and Fire Associations.

SECTION 2: THAT the citizens of the City of Abilene are hereby urged to register and vote "**AGAINST**" collective bargaining for police officers and firefighters in the election to be held May 7, 1988.

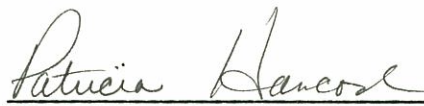
SECTION 3: THAT this Resolution be made available by the City Secretary to all persons desiring it as representing the stand of this City Council

SECTION 4: THAT this Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

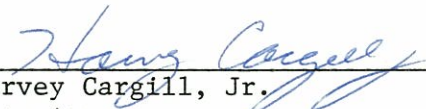
PASSED AND APPROVED in Regular Council Session of the City Council this 24 day of March, 1988.

  
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MAYOR, CITY OF ABILENE, TEXAS

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Harvey Cargill, Jr.  
City Attorney

cwb20/10  
3/18/88