

Resolution 2022-02

Call on Elected Leaders to Draft Measures to Restrict Access to Firearms Among Unsupervised Minors and on School Grounds

WHEREAS the school shooting November 30, 2021, at Oxford High School in Oxford, Michigan, was a horrific event, immediately claiming four young lives and leaving seven other people wounded, some with life-threatening injuries; and

WHEREAS the Oxford Village Council stands with the Oxford community in mourning those who died, praying for the recovery of those injured and for healing among all those affected by this tragedy, including all Oxford High School students, family members, community members, and first responders; and

WHEREAS the Oxford tragedy was sadly the latest in a long list of school shootings, with shootings claiming seven lives over the first four months of the 2021-22 school year alone, according to Education Week; and

WHEREAS despite a one-year decline linked to remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, school shootings have remained a continuing horror across our nation in the past decade, with an average of six shootings a year, or one every 50 days, since 2013, according to NBC News; and

WHEREAS the United States stands alone among other developed countries in the number and frequency of school shootings, as well as in the number of those killed and wounded; and

WHEREAS this senseless and tragic moment at Oxford High School needs to be the last of its kind as schoolchildren, residents, and visitors must be assured that even the most common task of any day will not be met with such violence; and

WHEREAS this horrific event will have far-reaching implications for the victims, their families, students at Oxford High School, hundreds of heroic first responders, the Oxford community, the State of Michigan, and the United States, and must be stopped so young and innocent lives will not be taken again; and

WHEREAS the shooting at Oxford High School and other schools in other states is a reminder that no community, whether urban, suburban, or rural, is immune to this type of violence and serves as a reminder call to action for lawmakers to enact measures that bring it to an end; and

WHEREAS that while the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution protects the rights of citizens to "bear arms" and even though this right must be protected, additional measures must be taken to prevent the sale to vulnerable individuals and to keep firearms out of the reach of unsupervised minors.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that on this 8th day of March 2022, the Oxford Village Council calls on elected leaders in the U.S. Congress and Michigan Legislature to immediately begin drafting measures that, while consistent with the Second Amendment protections, will restrict access to firearms among unsupervised minors and on school grounds, and increase penalties for adults who illegally provide firearms to minors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be sent to President Joe Biden, U.S. Congress, the Michigan House of Representatives and Senate, Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, the Oxford Township Board of Trustees and the Oxford Community Schools Board of Education.

The Resolution was introduced by <u>Council President, Cooke</u> and supported by <u>Council member, Ross</u>

AYES: 5. Bourgeau, Kemp, Helmuth, Ross, Cooke.

NAYS: 0. ABSENT: 0.

Kelsey Cooke, President

Allison Kemp, President Pro-Temp

Council Member, Ashley Ross

Council Member, Maureen Helmuth

Council Member, Lori Bourgeau

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.

I, Tere Onica, Village Clerk for the Village of Oxford, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate copy of Resolution No. 2022-02 adopted by the Village Council for the Village of Oxford, Michigan, at a regular meeting held on the 8th day of March 2022, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been available as required by said act.

Tere Onica, Village Clerk