



RESOLUTION

Resolution number: 24-066

Title: Recognition of the Honorable Mayor of Independence, Marvin Johnson

WHEREAS, Marvin Johnson, “Farming Mayor of Independence” for 45 years, one of the longest serving mayors in the United States, is retiring at the end of this term in 2024;

WHEREAS, Marvin has exemplified public service during his time in office, leading by example as a careful listener and thoughtful policy maker in decisions that affect and benefit the community of Independence;

WHEREAS, Marvin has extended his servant leadership to many other organizations through roles including: the League of Minnesota Cities, where he served as President and was granted the league’s highest honor in the C.C. Ludwig Award, recognizing individuals for their vision, statesmanship and unwavering commitment to the public good; the Minnesota and Hennepin County Farm Bureau; advisory committees for the region, including both Hennepin County and the Metropolitan Council; and the National League of Cities, where he served as Chair of the Small Cities Council and on the Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources Federal Advocacy Committee;

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure as Mayor of Independence, Marvin has been one of the longest standing and most steadfast supporters of the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District’s mission;

WHEREAS, Marvin has worked closely with MCWD on conservation projects, from improving livestock crossings of Painters Creek that minimize erosion, and providing conservation easements over Painters Marsh, to connecting MCWD to other conservation minded landowners within the community;

WHEREAS, Marvin has served as a leader on MCWD’s policy advisory committee for its watershed management plans, including the 2017 Plan where he provided support for MCWD’s Board as it pursued its vision of a Balanced Urban Ecology;

WHEREAS, Marvin has continually found ways to connect MCWD and its mission to new audiences, whether the National League of Cities, Small Cities Council tour, the Farm Bureau, or his work with the Metropolitan Council’s Land Use Advisory Committee;

WHEREAS, for his service, leadership and support, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers wishes to recognize Marvin Johnson;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby extends its deepest gratitude to Marvin Johnson, for a lifetime of service and exceptional leadership, that has benefited the City of Independence, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and the region.

Resolution Number 24-066 was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____. Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: 12/19/2024

 Secretary Date: _____