City of Wauwatosa Resolution R-13-153

WHEREAS, Wisconsin Statute Section 9.20 provides a method for citizens to petition the Common council for direct legislation, provided that the appropriate number of valid electors' signatures are produced on a petition; and

WHEREAS, the requisite number of signatures on a direct legislation petition were submitted by Grassroots Tosa on July 10, 2013, which petition was certified for sufficiency and form by the Wauwatosa City Clerk on July 25, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the question on the direct legislation petition reads as follows:

"RESOLVED, the City of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, calls for reclaiming democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate influence by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

- 1. Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and
- 2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby instruct our state and federal representatives to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort;" and

WHEREAS, upon receipt of a petition for direct legislation containing the requisite number of electors' signatures and having been certified by the City Clerk, the Common Council is required either to pass the resolution without alteration or submit to the electors at the next general election; and

WHEREAS, the Common Council of the City of Wauwatosa believes that a question such as the one submitted would be most appropriately addressed by a referendum placed before the voters of the City of Wauwatosa;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the question which is the topic of the direct legislation petition submitted by Grassroots Tosa on July 10, 2013, shall hereby be submitted to the votes of the City of Wauwatosa at the time of the Spring, 2014, general election, with the question on the ballot requiring a yes or no answer for the following statement:

"RESOLVED, the City of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, calls for reclaiming democracy from the corrupting effects of undue corporate influence by amending the United States Constitution to establish that:

- 1. Only human beings, not corporations, are entitled to constitutional rights, and
- 2. Money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we hereby instruct our state and federal representatives to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort."