

RESOLUTION NO. 1196
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT OVERTURNING
CITIZENS UNITED V. FEDERAL ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Whereas, government of, by, and for the people has long been a cherished American value, and;

Whereas, free and fair elections are essential to democracy and effective self-governance, and;

Whereas, corporations are not and never have been human beings or persons, and therefore are rightfully subservient to human beings and governments as our legal creations; and rightly are provided ONLY privileges by the states, and;

Whereas, interpretation of the U.S. Constitution by appointed Supreme Court Justices to include corporations in the term "persons" has long denied We the People's exercise of self-governance by endowing corporations with Constitutional protections intended by the Framers for ONLY We the People, and;

Whereas, in 1976 in the ruling in *Buckley v. Valeo*, the untenable decision of the Supreme Court changed the course of American elections and established the doctrine that spending money to influence elections is a form of speech; and;

Whereas, on January 10, 2010, in *Citizens United v. Federal Elections Commission*, the Supreme Court overturned a century of precedence by ruling that the corporate spending on elections cannot be limited under the First Amendment.

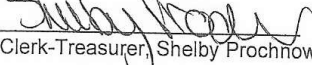
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that "We the People" of the **City of Phillips**, Wisconsin, seek to reclaim democracy from the expansion of corporate personhood rights and the corrupting influence of unregulated political contributions and spending. We stand with communities across the country to support passage of an amendment to the United States Constitution stating:

- 1. Only human beings are endowed with constitutional rights – not corporations, unions, nonprofits or other artificial entities; and**
- 2. Money is not speech, and, therefore limiting political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting speech.**

Further Resolved that the **City of Phillips**, Wisconsin Clerk/Treasurer is directed to forward a copy of this resolution to the Chairman of the Price County Board, the Price County Clerk and the Price County Administrator, as well as to the state and federal representatives relating to the City of Phillips and instructing them to enact resolutions and legislation to advance this effort.

APPROVED by the Phillips Common Council this 8th day of October 2019.

Attest: 
Charles Peterson – Mayor

Attest: 
Clerk-Treasurer, Shelby Prochnow