

**PROCLAMATION  
CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS MONTH  
SEPTEMBER 2020**

**WHEREAS**, Childhood cancer is the number one cause of death from disease among children. Every day, 43 children in the United States are diagnosed with cancer and the average age of diagnosis is 6 years old. One in 285 children will be diagnosed with cancer before the age of 20 and around the world, one child every 2 minutes is diagnosed with cancer. Approximately 11,050 children and adolescents under 15 years of age will be diagnosed with cancer in 2020 in the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, One in every 1,000 eighteen year olds in the United States is a survivor of childhood cancer, as a result of overall cure rates that have risen to more than 80% over the past 40 years. Only 4% of federal government cancer research funding goes to childhood cancer research; and

**WHEREAS**, Lifelong follow up care is recommended for all childhood cancer survivors due to the possibility of late side effects associated with treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, The impact of a childhood cancer diagnosis produces multiple challenges to a family. Children and their families need and deserve the full support of their communities while undergoing treatment; and

**WHEREAS**, Survival rates for pediatric cancers have improved dramatically over the past 50 years. Today, innovative treatments such as proton therapy and molecularly targeted therapy give doctors even more tools to fight and win the battle against childhood cancers, while working to reduce side effects from treatments; and

**WHEREAS**, Proton therapy can be especially beneficial for young cancer patients, who are most vulnerable to side effects of traditional radiation therapy. Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak was the first hospital in Michigan treating pediatric patients with proton technology; and

**WHEREAS**, Our community has the opportunity to make a significant impact on the lives of children currently being treated for cancer, childhood cancer survivors and their families; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, That the City Council of the City of Troy hereby proclaims **September 2020 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month** in the City of Troy and joins with our local hospitals to honor all childhood cancer survivors for their strength and determination; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That the City Council of the City of Troy applaud the hard-working doctors, nurses and staff at Troy's local hospitals who dedicate their lives caring for children affected by cancer.

Signed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020.