PROCLAMATION

Celebrating 15 years of the Sister City partnership between De Pere & Åmål, Sweden

WHEREAS, the Cities of Åmål, Sweden and De Pere, Wisconsin, USA have been sister cities through Sister Cities International since November 8, 2007; and

WHEREAS, throughout this fifteen-year partnership, the two cities have fostered a strong relationship, collaborating on many social and economic programs that have benefited each respective community, and have earned numerous awards for these initiatives, and

WHEREAS, most recently, on July 8, the City of De Pere was presented with the 2022 Sister Cities International Innovation in Youth and Education Award (Population 25,000–100,000); and

WHEREAS, this award came through the efforts of teachers Randy Soquet from De Pere High School and Henrick Olsson from Åmål's high school, who held monthly zoom calls for the past two years with their students to discuss lifestyles and cultures in the two cities; and

WHEREAS, there are many other notable examples of sister city influence within our communities, including a mural painted by Åmål artists in De Pere, and a clock installed in Åmål, inspired by the clock in De Pere's downtown; and

WHEREAS, the City of De Pere continues to find value and influence from this sister city program and looks forward to more collaboration in the future, and

WHEREAS, our partnership with Åmål was formally renewed January 29, 2021 by Mayor James Boyd; who will visit Åmål with a delegation from De Pere in December 2022.

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of De Pere, Wisconsin, I, James G. Boyd, on behalf of our community during this 15th anniversary, do hereby commend, congratulate, and thank all who have helped develop and strengthen the City of De Pere's sister city partnership with Åmål, Sweden.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of the City of De Pere, Wisconsin, this 15th day of November 2022.

CITY OF DE PERE, WISCONSIN

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James G. Boyd, Mayor