



CITY OF WINOOSKI CITY COUNCIL

MAYOR SETH LEONARD
DEPUTY MAYOR NICOLE MACE
COUNCILOR HAL COLSTON
COUNCILOR ERIC COVEY
COUNCILOR KRISTINE LOTT

JESSIE BAKER
CITY MANAGER

RESOLUTION ON THE BASING OF F-35s AT THE BURLINGTON INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Whereas the City of Winooski wishes to address the Air Force decision to base F-35 fighter jets at the Burlington International Airport, doing so through Secretary Dr. Heather Wilson, and;

Whereas the City of Winooski remains steadfast in our support and commitment to the value of the Vermont Air National Guard to our community, the region, and the state, and;

Whereas the City of Winooski recognizes the bravery and sacrifice of each member of the Guard and their families, and;

Whereas the City of Winooski formally requests the Vermont Air National Guard continue to have a mission that reflects their high level of commitment and professional expertise each member brings to our service, and;

Whereas During Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) review, the City of Winooski offered two formal resolutions – in May and June of 2012 requesting more conclusive information around the impact of the potential basing; and subsequently in July of 2012 asking that the Burlington International Airport (BIA) be removed from consideration due to insufficient responses to the concerns raised regarding the potential impact of the basing, and;

Whereas, at time of final comments for the basing decision at the conclusion of the Environmental Impact Statement and directly prior to the final consideration for a basing decision, in July 2013, the City of Winooski submitted a formal request for the EIS record requesting that BIA be removed for consideration for the basing under consideration at that time, and;

Whereas, each formal resolution passed by the Winooski City Council included a number of questions and concerns that went unacknowledged and unaddressed, and;

Whereas, following a vote in 2015 by Winooski voters, a majority of the voters requested the City of Winooski enter into a legal complaint against the Air Force regarding the process of selecting Burlington International Airport. The suit included several residents from Winooski and surrounding community's. The City's argument expressed concern over the lack of definitive noise mitigation efforts that would be employed and whether the economic/quality of life/environmental impact was weighed during the basing decision, and;

Whereas, following the denial of its complaint in Court, the City of Winooski did not appeal and was removed from any subsequent suits against the Air Force. Following that decision, on November 7th 2016 the Council passed a resolution outlining requests to the City of Burlington and Vermont's

Congressional Delegation with a focus on achieving operational and governance improvements at the airport, and;

Whereas, the majority of voters in the City of Burlington, Vermont acted in favor of a ballot item requesting that an alternative mission to the basing of the F-35 be sought, and;

Whereas, the City of Burlington City Council supported a resolution to the Secretary of the Air Force that reflects concerns about the basing of F-35s at Burlington International Airport, and;

Whereas, the Vermont Congressional Delegation has continued to support the basing of the F-35 at the Burlington International Airport, and;

Whereas, the City of Winooski reiterates our request from the November 2016 resolution that Vermont's Congressional Delegation engage any means necessary to mitigate adverse impacts of the potential F-35 basing upon Winooski and other impacted communities, and;

Now therefore let it be resolved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Winooski, Vermont the following:

The City of Winooski requests, through Secretary of the Air Force Dr. Heather Wilson, that the current planned basing of F-35s at Burlington International Airport be cancelled, and;

The City of Winooski requests that an alternative mission be identified for the Vermont Air National Guard members who have bravely served their country and their communities, and;

The City of Winooski seeks to have the questions put forward by the Burlington City Council and the questions formally submitted by the City of Winooski to receive a formal response from the Air Force, and;

The City of Winooski stands in support of the Burlington City Council's resolution and its content.

DATED AT Winooski, Vermont, this 16 day of, 2018.

Affirmative Vote:



 Mayor Seth Leonard



 Councilor Hal Colston



 Councilor Eric Covey



 Councilor Kristine Lott



 Councilor Nicole Mace

Negative Vote

 Mayor Seth Leonard

 Councilor Hal Colston

Councilor Eric Covey

Councilor Kristine Lott

Councilor Nicole Mace

Adopted on: _____

Rejected on: _____

Attest _____

City Clerk Carol Barrett