RESOLUTION 2012-03

A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY STATING THEIR OPOSITION TO CONTINUATION OF FUNDING THE CAGAN CROSSINGS LIBRARY IN LAKE COUNTY; PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, in 2005 the Polk County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) acknowledged a shortfall in library services to its residents in the NorthRidge CRA and recognized that public library services were extremely important to the growing population of that region; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County BoCC received a request from the Lake County BoCC to assist in funding the costs of the new Cagan's Crossing Library which serves a portion of Polk County residents living in the NorthRidge CRA area as well as its primary Lake County constituents; and

WHEREAS, an agreement was signed between the Polk County BoCC and the Lake County BoCC in 2006 to provide financial assistance for a period of five years to offset the cost of usage by Polk Residents at the Cagan's Crossing Library; and

WHEREAS, the Polk County Library Cooperative (PCLC) signed a Reciprocal Borrowing Agreement with Lake, Osceola, and Orange Counties in 2001 agreeing to provide library services to residents of all abovementioned counties without user fees; and

WHEREAS, providing library outreach services to the taxpayers of the NorthRidge CRA has been a priority for the Governing Board since 2005 resulting in four Bookmobile stops in the area and increasing use of Books by Mail (B-Mail); and

WHEREAS, the Governing Board has now added a bookdrop and vending machines at the Outpost 27 and has provided a full time professional librarian to present programs

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF POLK CITY:

Section 1. The Polk City Council believes that cost effective "green" service models have been developed and the library service gap in the NorthRidge CRA has been successfully addressed by the Polk County Library Cooperative.

Section 2. The Polk City Council believes that Lake County filled a void in the past for library users in the NorthRidge CRA with the Cagan Crossings Library, but that void no longer exists and therefore the agreement to provide funding to the Lake County BoCC by the Polk County BoCC should end with the FY 2012-2013 budget.

Section 3. The Polk City Council strongly encourages the Polk County BoCC to let the Polk County Library Cooperative use all of the decreasing Northridge Library MSTU dollars to continue the outreach services provided by the PCLC and no longer send any library funds outside of Polk County. As the FY 12-13 budget preparations begin, the City Council strongly encourages the Polk County BoCC to provide PCLC with the financial means to serve the Northridge CRA residents and to sever the agreement to provide Lake County with financial assistance for its library services, letting the reciprocal borrowing agreements that have been in place provide access between libraries without fees or funding.

Mayor Joe LaCascia

ATTEST

Patricia R. Jackson, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM & LEGALITY

Thomas A. Cloud, Esquire, City Attorney