

BY ALDS. RAINEY, COGGS, HAMILTON, DODD, STAMPER, BORKOWSKI, WITKOWSKI, PÉREZ, LEWIS, JOHNSON

Resolution expressing condolences to the family and friends of Kobe Bryant who passed from this life on January 26, 2020.

WHEREAS,

KOBE BRYANT

passed from this life on January 26, 2020, and services were held for family on February 7, 2020 in Calabasas, CA; and

WHEREAS, *Kobe “Bean” Bryant was born on August 23, 1978, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Named after a city in Japan, Bryant is the son of former NBA player Joe “Jellybean” Bryant.; and*

WHEREAS, *Kobe grew up in Italy alongside two athletic older sisters, Shaya and Sharia, Bryant was an avid player of both basketball and soccer growing up. Later in 1991, the family returned to Philadelphia and Bryant joined Lower Merion High School basketball team, leading it to the state championships four years in a row; and*

WHEREAS, *Kobe excelled in school, he had good grades and high SAT scores, Bryant decided to go straight to the NBA from high school. He was selected by the Charlotte Hornets with the 13th overall pick of the 1996 NBA draft and was subsequently traded to the Los Angeles Lakers; and*

WHEREAS, *as a Laker, Kobe goes on to win numerous awards over his career as a Laker. 102 awards that includes: NBA Champions, NBA MVPs, and NBA Finals MVPs. In November of 2015, Kobe announced that he would retire at the end of the season. “This season is all I have left to give,” he wrote on The Players’ Tribune website. “My heart can take the pounding. My mind can handle the grind but my body knows it’s time to say goodbye.”; and*

WHEREAS, *upon retirement Bryant released a short film titled “Dear Basketball.” The result was a beautifully rendered five-minute, 20-second film, which debuted at the 2017 Tribeca Film Festival. Oscar voters took note, leading to the unexpected sight of Bryant accepting an Academy Award for Best Animated Short Film at the 2018 ceremony; now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED, *that the Common Council of the City of Milwaukee herewith expresses its condolences to the family and friends of Kobe “Bean” Bryant, recognizes his lasting impact on the game of basketball and communities around the world; and, be it*

FURTHER RESOLVED, *that a suitably engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the family of Kobe Bryant to commemorate his courageous work and life.*

Introduced by Common Council members Khalif J. Rainey, Milele A. Coggs, Ashanti Hamilton, Jim Bohl, Russell W. Stamper, II, Mark A. Borkowski, Terry L. Witkowski, José G. Pérez, Chantia Lewis, Cavalier Johnson and Michael J. Murphy and approved by all members of the Milwaukee Common Council on March 3, 2020.