



Resolution

RESOLUTION TO DEDICATE THE FORMER HASTINGS POST OFFICE AND LIBRARY IN HONOR OF EMIL TYDEN

WHEREAS, in 1882, seventeen year-old Emil Tyden embarked on a journey from Sweden to the United States in search of resources for his family farm in Sweden; and,

WHEREAS, Emil Tyden reflected on the true opportunity of America after returning to Sweden and subsequently returned to pursue the American Dream in Moline, Illinois where he began work for the Moline Organ Company; and,

WHEREAS, at the beginning of World War I, President Woodrow Wilson appointed Emil Tyden to Lieutenant Colonel and director of the Rock Island Military Arsenal in Illinois where he managed 30,000-workers and skillfully modernized armaments for the war effort,

WHEREAS, Emil Tyden moved to Chicago, a city where he rose to the post of Land Agent for the Union Pacific Railroad and patented a tamper-proof device for boxcars called the 'Tyden Self-Locking Seal'; and,

WHEREAS, Emil Tyden moved to Hastings, Michigan in the late 1890s and founded the International Seal and Lock Company in an abandoned factory where he implemented one of the world's first automation systems and produced 100 million devices annually; and,

WHEREAS, the disastrous fire which destroyed Emil Tyden's factory in 1920 served as a catalyst for his determination to enter the fire suppression industry and his subsequent purchase and relocation of the Viking Sprinkler to Hastings; and,

WHEREAS, Emil Tyden's creation of Viking Corporation and Hastings Manufacturing Company employed scores of Barry County residents and planted the seeds of economic growth for the Bliss Company, Orchard Industries, Viatec and Hastings Fiberglass; and,

WHEREAS, though Emil Tyden died in November 1951, his legacy lives on in Barry County because of his truly-American ingenuity and spirit of determination which have made it possible for generations of county residents to pursue their own American Dreams; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the building located at 121 South Church Street, Hastings, Michigan is hereby renamed the "Tyden Center" in honor of Emil Tyden; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Resolution 17-03 is repealed upon adoption of this Resolution.

Benjamin D. Geiger, Chairperson
Barry County Board of Commissioners

Pamela A. Palmer
Barry County Clerk