

**CITY OF ALGOMA
COUNTY OF KEWAUNEE
STATE OF WISCONSIN**

**COMMON COUNCIL
RESOLUTION No. 1001 – 2020**

**A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF STATE LEGISLATION REGULATING
THE APPLICATION AND SALE OF COAL TAR AND
OTHER HIGH-PAH SEALANT PRODUCTS**

WHEREAS, the City of Algoma finds that its water resources are natural assets which enhance the environmental, recreational, cultural, and economic resources of the area and contribute to the general health and welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, the City of Algoma finds that polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (hereinafter, "PAHs"), which are contained in coal tar sealants and other high-PAH sealants, volatilize off of sealed pavement and can be inhaled by humans and animals; and

WHEREAS, when sealed surfaces are eroded by weathering, foot and vehicle traffic, and snow plowing, PAH-contaminated particles are transported into homes and onto nearby soils and can be carried by storm water and other runoff into the City of Algoma's water resources; and

WHEREAS, PAHs are an environmental concern because they are toxic to aquatic life, causing deformities and other reproductive and developmental problems, cancer, and death, which result in fewer organisms and even the loss of species; and

WHEREAS, according to the International Agency for Research on Cancer, PAH compounds have been proven to cause cancer, mutations, and birth defects in humans, and studies show that individuals with lifelong exposure to coal tar-sealed surfaces have a 38-fold higher risk of cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Medical Association has adopted a policy advocating for legislation to either ban the use of pavement sealants that contain PAHs or require that sealant products used contain minimal PAHs; and

WHEREAS, environmental impacts and human health risks can be minimized, and pavements can be maintained, by utilizing alternative products or methods without PAHs; and

WHEREAS, other states, as well as other counties and municipalities in the State of Wisconsin, have passed legislation banning the use of coal tar and other high-PAH sealants; and

WHEREAS, the City of Algoma finds that regulating the sale and application of coal tar and other high-PAH sealant products will reduce the amount of PAH-based contaminants entering the City's water resources and will correspondingly improve and protect the public health and water quality of the City and neighboring municipalities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Algoma, duly assembled this 6th day of January, 2020, urges the Governor and state legislature to enact legislation banning the sale and application of coal tar and other high-PAH sealants within the State of Wisconsin

ADOPTED BY ORDER OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AT A REGULAR MEETING THEREOF ON THE 6TH DAY OF JANUARY 2020, BY A VOTE OF 8 FOR AND 0 OPPOSED.

Approved:



Wayne R. Schmidt,
Mayor of the City of Algoma

Attest:



Jamie Jackson,
Clerk of the City of Algoma