A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE OF BRADNER OPPOSING THE REMOVAL AND RELOCATION OF THE POLLING LOCATION WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BRADNER AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, since the charter of the Village in 1876, the polling location for the residents of the Village of Bradner has been within the territorial limits of the Village; and

WHEREAS, on or about September 9, 2019, the Village and its residents have been notified by the Wood County Board of Elections that the polling location for Village residents has been moved to the Village of Pemberville; and

WHEREAS, the distance to the new polling location in Pemberville from the Village of Bradner represents a distance of nearly eight (8) miles, as driven; and

WHEREAS, a large number of Village residents are elderly, infirm, or otherwise unable to travel to the new polling location; and

WHEREAS, the right and ability to vote is fundamental within our Country and State and is thus enshrined in the Constitution of the United States and the Ohio Constitution; and

WHEREAS, actions which disenfranchise voters run afoul of these right, tenets, and constitutions; and

WHEREAS, despite the availability of absentee ballots, the Council and residents of the Village are deeply concerned that serious hardship and inconvenience will be imposed disproportionally upon the Village residents by virtue of the removal of a Village polling location; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the Village desires that the previous polling location be reinstated or, in the alternative, a more local polling location be selected for the benefit of the Village residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BRADNER, WOOD COUNTY, OHIO, WITH TWO-THIRDS OF ALL MEMBERS VOTING IN FAVOR THEREOF:

SECTION 1: That the Council of the Village formally opposes the removal of the existing polling location from the Village.

SECTION 2: That the Wood County Board of Elections is hereby requested to re-instate the existing polling location within the Village, or in the alternative, designate a local and convenient polling place within Montgomery Township.

SECTION 3. This ordinance constitutes an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace and fundamental rights of the residents of the Village of Bradner, and shall go into immediate effect upon the passage thereof. The reason for the emergency is that unless the polling location is immediately changed, there will be insufficient time to notify voters and many residents will be deterred or prevented from voting.

SECTION 4. All formal actions of Council relating to the adoption of this ordinance, and all deliberations of Council and any of its committees leading to such action were in meetings open to the public as required by law.

Passed 9 19 19

ATTEST:

Village Fiscal Officer

Council President

Mayor Shush

Approved as to form;

Village Solicitor