

RESOLUTION NO. 2013-16

**A RESOLUTION IN RESPONSE TO GREEN BAY MAYOR JIM SCHMITT'S
METRO-MERGER PROPOSAL**

WHEREAS, Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt recently espoused his plan to have neighboring communities merge with the City of Green Bay to form a large regional government by 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Howard would be merged into the City of Green Bay under his proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor suggested a regionally represented task force should be formed to study his proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Howard strives to continually improve the services it provides to its residents in the most cost-effective and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, these efforts have resulted in the Village of Howard having a tax rate of \$3.33 per \$1,000 of value compared to the City of Green Bay's \$8.80 tax rate per \$1,000 of value; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Howard is one of the few villages or cities in the state that use cash to fund public improvements and have no non-utility general obligation debt as of April 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Howard continues to explore and enter into collaborative and cooperative agreements with neighboring communities to provide the most cost-effective services to our residents and businesses; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village Board of Trustees in Howard, Wisconsin, does hereby respectfully decline to participate in the Mayor's proposed metro-merger task force, and further rejects his opinion that such a merger would be beneficial to the residents and tax base of the Village of Howard.

Approved this 22nd day of April, 2013.

Burt R. McIntyre, Village President

Christopher A. Haltom, Village Clerk