



The Council
City of Indianapolis
Marion County

CITY-COUNTY SPECIAL RESOLUTION NO. 36, 2016

A SPECIAL RESOLUTION recognizing the *National Beep Baseball Association's 2016 World Champion, Indy Thunder.*

WHEREAS, the National Beep Baseball Association (NBBA) was organized in 1976 for visually impaired adults to play baseball. Each year, the NBBA coordinates local, state, and regional tournaments that are played on a grass field with six fielders: a first-baseman, third-baseman, shortstop, left fielder, right fielder, and center fielder, as well as one or two "spotters" from one team, and the pitcher, catcher, and batter from the other team; and

WHEREAS, the game is played with a 16-inch softball is pitched to batter who is blind and blind folded. When the ball is hit, the batter runs to a base which has a tone to it. There are only two bases, first and third that are controlled by a base operator who determines which one they are going to turn on; and

WHEREAS, Indy Thunder was formed by Damell Booker in January, 2000 as a recreational team. At that time, the Thunder consisted of players throughout the State of Indiana and neighboring State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, the Indy Thunder joined the NBBA and turned this recreational team into a competitive team. Along with joining the NBBA, the Indy Thunder regional tournament was born and the team attended their first World Series in Cleveland, Ohio; and

WHEREAS, since 2002, Indy Thunder has played in many tournaments, finishing in the top 10 and every year, they are headed back to the World Series; and

WHEREAS, between 2003 and 2013, Indy Thunder began to see tremendous growth and interest in beep baseball. There were more sponsors and players added, and they began to get better as a team and organization, and most importantly, winning tournaments; and

WHEREAS, off the field, the team was also a great success. They acquired new sponsors, including Lids, The Indianapolis Indians and the Finish Line Youth Foundation, as well as securing several private donors, including one which enabled them to launch their new website; and

WHEREAS, throughout the history of Indy Thunder Beep Baseball, three teams have come from the Thunder Tree including RHI-X-treme founded in 2011, the Indy Knights founded in 2015, and The Indy Edge which will debut in 2016; and

WHEREAS, Indy Thunder Beep Ball has had its best season of the decade, finishing 11 – 1, and that was exceeded on July 31, 2016, when the team became the winners of the 2016 National Beep Baseball Association World Series in Ames, Iowa; now, therefore:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY-COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS AND OF MARION COUNTY, INDIANA:

SECTION 1. The Indianapolis City-County Council proudly recognizes the 2016 NBBA World Series Champions Indy Thunder.

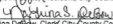
SECTION 2. The Council heartily congratulates the Indy Thunder and wishes them continued success.

SECTION 3. The Mayor is invited to join in this resolution by affixing his signature hereto.

This Special Resolution was sponsored by Councillors Clay and was passed by the City-County Council this 10th day of October, 2016.

ATTEST:


Maggie A. Lewis, President, City-County Council


NaTrina D. Bow, Clerk, City-County Council


Joseph H. Hogsett, Mayor

