

City of Winchester, Virginia

PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

CITY COUNCIL/COMMITTEE MEETING OF: September 23, 2014 CUT OFF DATE: 9/16/14

RESOLUTION X ORDINANCE _____ PUBLIC HEARING _____

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution to recognize Josiah Duffy

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Winchester Fire and Rescue Staff requests approval

PUBLIC NOTICE AND HEARING:

ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION:

FUNDING DATA:

INSURANCE:

The initiating Department Director will place below, in sequence of transmittal, the names of each department that must initial their review in order for this item to be placed on the City Council agenda. The Director's initials for approval or disapproval address only the readiness of the issue for Council consideration. This does not address the Director's recommendation for approval or denial of the issue.

<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>INITIALS FOR APPROVAL</u>	<u>INITIALS FOR DISAPPROVAL</u>	<u>DATE</u>
1. <u>WFRD</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>		<u>9/9/14</u>
2. _____	_____	_____	_____
3. _____	_____	_____	_____
4. _____	_____	_____	_____
5. City Attorney	<u>[Signature]</u>		<u>9/11/2014</u>
6. City Manager	<u>[Signature]</u>		<u>11 Sept 14</u>
7. Clerk of Council	_____	_____	_____
Initiating Department Director's Signature: <u>[Signature]</u>			<u>9/9/14</u> Date



APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY

9/11/2014

CITY COUNCIL ACTION MEMO

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of City Council
From: Allen Baldwin, Fire Chief
Date: September 3, 2014
Re: Citizen Commendation Award

THE ISSUE:

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN:

BACKGROUND: On Wednesday night July 16th, Michelle Gordon was driving her children Cam, 10, and Mac, 12, along with their sister Emerson, 4, and two of their friends — Josiah and his brother Jacob Duffy, 10 — to their respective homes on Armistead Street in Winchester. The boys had finished a day at First Baptist Church’s Vacation Bible School. Walking back to her vehicle, Gordon prepared to warn Cam to be careful eating a hard candy that he received at the camp. But she got distracted, while securing the five children in her SUV, and never issued the warning.

Before she could even leave her on-street parking spot, Cam, who was seated in the third row, leaned over the seat in front of him with both hands placed on his neck. “He turned pale, and I asked if he was choking,” Josiah recalled Friday morning. “I was a little scared and tried to tell my mom I was choking. I told her in a weird voice,” Cam added. Sensing his friend was unwell; Josiah opened the van door allowing Cam to exit, followed him out and started the Heimlich maneuver. As he performed it, Josiah said he was thinking to himself, “I wasn’t sure if I was doing it right.”

Josiah did something right. Cam vomited in the middle of the street and the hard candy was there on the pavement, still intact. Cam’s airway was clear and he started to breath normal again.

Josiah Duffy learned this technique along with other lifesaving techniques from his father, Mike Duffy, who is a career firefighter with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department.

BUDGET IMPACT:

OPTIONS:

RECOMMENDATIONS: It is the recommendation of Winchester Fire and Rescue staff that Council approves this resolution recognizing Josiah’s heroism for helping his friend.



THE COMMON COUNCIL

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I, Kari J. Van Diest, Deputy Clerk of the Common Council, hereby certify on this 14th day of October 2014 that the following Resolution is a true and exact copy of one and the same adopted by the Common Council of the City of Winchester, assembled in regular session on the 14th day of October 2014.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the fast thinking and training of a young individual helped save the life of his friend; and,

WHEREAS, on July 16, 2014, Josiah Duffy, performed the Heimlich maneuver on his 10 year old friend Cam Gordon, who was choking on a piece of hard candy; and,

WHEREAS, Josiah questioned himself if he was performing the procedure correctly, but he knew his friend needed help; and,

WHEREAS, the knowledge and techniques Josiah learned from his father who is a career firefighter allowed him to do just what was needed in this emergency situation and his calm demeanor and concern for his friend's well-being are astonishing for a person of this age; and,

WHEREAS, it is the opinion of the Fire and Rescue staff that it would be appropriate for Josiah Duffy to be recognized by a resolution from the Common Council, for his heroism and fast thinking during this emergency situation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Common Council of the City of Winchester, Virginia and the citizens that it represents, recognizes the brave, calm, and caring manner in which Josiah Duffy saved the life of his choking friend on July 16, in the year 2014.

Resolution No. 2014-00.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of the City of Winchester on the 14th day of October 2014.

Witness my hand and the seal of the City of Winchester, Virginia.

*Kari J. Van Diest, CMC
Deputy Clerk of the Common Council*