WHEREAS, Vern Bauman has devoted more than five decades to serving the citizens and community of Ste. Genevieve through civic leadership, business development, historic preservation, and steadfast commitment to protecting the city from flooding; and

WHEREAS, following the Flood of 1973, Vern became a charter member and the first chairman of the Ste. Genevieve Levee District III Board of Supervisors, a leadership position he held for more than 50 years, and he has also served on the Joint Levee Commission since 1995; and

WHEREAS, Vern played a vital role in protecting Ste. Genevieve during the historic floods of 1993 and 1995, organized training on the operation and maintenance of the city's levee system, and consistently provided his knowledge, equipment, leadership, and personal commitment whenever rising waters threatened the community; and

WHEREAS, Vern was an early and determined advocate for the Ste. Genevieve Urban Design Levee, helping advance a project that continues to protect the city's residents, businesses, historic structures, and irreplaceable cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, through Vern Bauman Contracting Company and other business ventures, Vern has created employment opportunities, supported regional economic growth, and generously provided equipment and assistance for numerous community projects; and

WHEREAS, Vern has further served the community through his involvement with the Ste. Genevieve Museum Learning Center, the Missouri Dinosaur Project, the Ste. Genevieve Levee Refuge Project, MRV Banks, the Chamber of Commerce, and numerous civic, charitable, religious, and service organizations; and

WHEREAS, Vern's exceptional contributions have been recognized through many honors, including the Ste. Genevieve Jaycees Butch Straughn Memorial Award, the Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award, the Foundation for Restoration of Ste. Genevieve Historic Preservation Award, and his selection as La Chevalier de Ste. Genevieve; and

WHEREAS, Vern Bauman's enduring record of service reflects a deep love for Ste. Genevieve and serves as an inspiring example of citizenship, leadership, generosity, and dedication to the common good; and

WHEREAS, through Vern's tireless care, foresight, and determination in defending Ste. Genevieve from the persistent threat of flooding, he helped ensure that this historic community endured and that the City of Ste. Genevieve continues to stand and thrive today;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF STE. GENEVIEVE, MISSSOURI DOES HEREBY CONFER UPON VERN BAUMAN THE MAYORAL MERIT AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE, DEDICATION, AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY, AND

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS RESOLUTION BECOME OFFICIAL RECORD OF THE CITY OF STE. GENEVIVE AND THAT A COPY BE PRESENTED TO VERN BAUMAN AS A SYMBOL OF THE CITY'S SINCERE APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE.