

00155

RESOLUTION NO. 29-76

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, EXPRESSING OPPOSITION TO COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND BINDING ARBITRATION FOR POLICE AND FIRE PERSONNEL AND URGING ALL CITIZENS TO EXPRESS THEIR PREFERENCE IN THIS MATTER BY VOTING FOR LOCAL CONTROL OVER LOCAL AFFAIRS AND AGAINST COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND BINDING ARBITRATION AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF.

WHEREAS, a petition has been presented to the City Council calling upon the City Council to call an election to determine whether or not Police and Fire Personnel shall have the right of collective bargaining for salary and working conditions; and

WHEREAS, under the law the City Council is required to call such election; and

WHEREAS, adoption of such law by the City of Mesquite would place Police and Fire Personnel in a favored position with respect to all other city employees; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council to provide the best possible compensation and benefits for all City employees without favoring any one group over another group; and

WHEREAS, the desire on the part of Police and Fire Personnel for an adequate living and reasonable compensation for service performed, while a natural and real concern, is not unique among members of this group, but is one shared in common with all City employees and one that is deserving of priority by members of this Council and the citizens of this City without regard to occupation or department; and

WHEREAS, adoption by the City of Mesquite of the Collective Bargaining Act would take the power to provide compensation for City employees from the citizen's elected representatives and lodge the final decision making power in third parties that may or may not have the interests of the citizens or employees at heart; and

WHEREAS, passage of this Act by the State Legislature is not proof that this law is good for the citizens or employees of Mesquite or of any particular City, but is merely permission for the citizens, exercising their personal judgement, to determine whether the Act is needed in their City or whether they prefer to retain local control over local affairs; and

RESOLUTION/PAGE 2

00173

WHEREAS, it is the belief of members of this Council that local affairs can best be handled by the citizens through their locally elected City Council and that a transfer of this power to a board of arbitrators who are non-residents of this City is but another step toward removal of all power from local citizens to manage their local affairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council of the City of Mesquite does hereby express opposition to collective bargaining for Police and Fire Personnel and urge each citizen to express his or her preference for local control over local affairs by voting against collective bargaining and bind arbitration at the election to be held January 15, 1977.

SECTION 2. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage as the Charter in such cases provides.

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on this the 20th day of December, A.D., 1976.

*Bob Beard*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bob Beard  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

ATTEST:

*Norma G. McGaughy*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Norma G. McGaughy  
City Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Elland Archer  
City Attorney