

RESOLUTION NO. 02-2014

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESQUITE, TEXAS, DECLARING A PERIOD OF AMNESTY FOR LIBRARY FINES FROM FEBRUARY 17 – 22, 2014, TO ALLOW FOR THE DONATION OF FOOD TO MESQUITE SOCIAL SERVICES AND SHARING LIFE COMMUNITY OUTREACH IN LIEU OF FINES AND WITHOUT CRIMINAL PENALTY.

WHEREAS, the City Council has the authority by resolution to declare limited periods of “amnesty” to allow borrowers of the Mesquite Public Library (the “Library”) to return overdue items or items previously considered lost without payment of the fines or other charges and to allow the Library to accept return of such items without assessment of such fines, charges or criminal penalty; and

WHEREAS, the Library is requesting permission to allow library users to donate food in lieu of fines for a one-week period in honor of the Library’s 50th anniversary as a City Department; and

WHEREAS, the “Food for Fines” Program has been used successfully in libraries, both public and university, across the United States for many years; and

WHEREAS, the Program will encourage the return of overdue items thereby making these items available to our users again; resolve existing penalties thereby allowing blocked users to once again use our facilities; and support local families in need of groceries; and

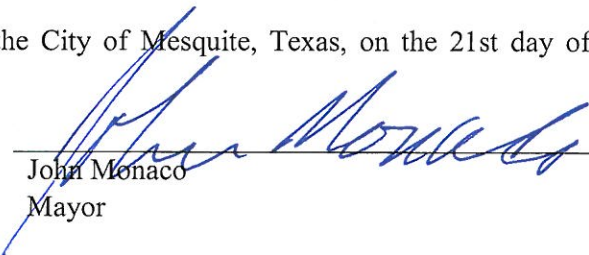
WHEREAS, the City desires to encourage the use of the Library by resolving existing fines and penalties; and

WHEREAS, the City finds that this “Food for Fines” Program will serve a public purpose.

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

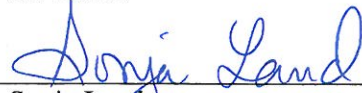
SECTION 1. That the City Council declares a period of amnesty for library fines and criminal penalties to allow for the donation of food beginning on February 17, 2014, and ending on February 22, 2014, whereby the City will waive \$1.00 worth of fines for every canned or non-perishable food donation made to Mesquite Social Services or Sharing Life Community Outreach at the Mesquite Public Library locations so that patrons may return overdue items or items previously considered lost, without the payment of the applicable fines and without any criminal penalty during this period of amnesty.

DULY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Mesquite, Texas, on the 21st day of January, 2014.



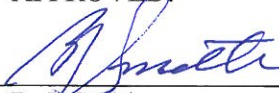
John Monaco
Mayor

ATTEST:



Sonja Land
City Secretary

APPROVED:



B. J. Smith
City Attorney