RESOLUTION NO. 2020-5

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A CITIZENS COMMISSION FOR LEGISLATIVE AND CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

WHEREAS, the citizens of the Township of West Rockhill and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania deserve a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts of near equal population; and

WHEREAS, legislative and congressional redistricting has at times resulted in gerrymandered districts that favor one political party over others; and

WHEREAS, such gerrymandering of legislative and congressional districts has worked at times to the detriment of our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS, the creation of a truly independent citizens redistricting commission devoid of political motivation or partisanship will: ensure a fair, transparent, and accurate legislative and congressional redistricting process that respects political subdivisions; prohibit districts from being drawn to favor or discriminate against a political party or candidate; require the use of impartial and sound methodology when setting district boundaries; require public input; and fully comply with the constitutional requirement that "no county, city, incorporated town, borough, township or ward" be divided "unless absolutely necessary," and

WHEREAS, legislation to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to reform the decennial legislative and congressional redistricting process with the intent of using fairness and sound methodology in a non-partisan fashion is required to ensure these reforms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of West Rockhill does hereby support legislative efforts to amend the Pennsylvania Constitution to assign the decennial task of both legislative and congressional redistricting to an independent citizens' redistricting commission; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we call upon all those elected officials and party leaders in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania who represent the citizens of the Township of West Rockhill to publicly announce their support of and commitment to work towards passage of such legislative efforts, and that a copy of this resolution be delivered to each of the Governor Tom Wolf Lieutenant Governor John Fetterman Attorney General Josh Shapiro United States Senator Bob Casey United States Senator Pat Toomey United States Representative Brian Fitzpatrick Pennsylvania Senator Steve Santarsiero Pennsylvania Representative Craig Staats Bucks County Commissioner Gene DiGirolamo Bucks County Commissioner Robert Harvie Bucks County Commissioner Diane Ellis-Marseglia Secretary of the Commonwealth Kathy Boockvar

RESOLVED AND ENACTED this 18th day of March, A.D., 2020

ATTEST:

WEST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

James E. Miller, Jr., Chairman

Gregory J. Lippincott, Manager

Jay Keyser, Vice Chairma

David Collingwood, Member