



## **PRIDE MONTH PROCLAMATION**

**Whereas**, Pride month celebrates the uprising at the Stonewall Inn in New York City starting on June 28, 1969, and the subsequent fight for freedom, equity, and visibility for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and gender-expansive identities (LGBTQ+) in America; and

**Whereas**, the Town of Erie has a diverse LGBTQ+ community that includes people of many walks of life who make lasting and impactful contributions to the Town; and

**Whereas**, transgender, genderqueer, and gender non-conforming people across the nation, especially transgender women of color, face alarming rates of physical and verbal violence, homelessness, and lack of access to adequate health services; and

**Whereas**, in 2023, more than 400 bills restricting the rights and freedoms of LGBTQ+ people were introduced; and

**Whereas**, this year's Pride month's theme is "Strength in Solidarity," calling for allies and the LGBTQ+ community to celebrate the good that comes through uplifting and supporting one another; and

**Whereas**, the Town of Erie honors its commitment to the promotion and protection of the human rights of LGBTQ+ residents by celebrating their resilience, lived experiences, and achievements; and

**Now, therefore**, I, Trustee Emily Baer, on behalf of Mayor Justin Brooks, do hereby proclaim the month of June 2023 as the Town of Erie's Pride Month and call all residents to respect and honor our diverse communities, celebrating and building a culture of equity and belonging.

**Dated this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2023**

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**Justin Brooks, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

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**Debbie Stamp, Deputy Town Clerk**