

03-0638R

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE NINE RULES OF CIVILITY.

BY COUNCILOR NESS:

WHEREAS, the residents of the city of Duluth place a high value on respect and civility in their lives and they understand that these characteristics are essential to any healthy community; and

WHEREAS, the Duluth City Council supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussion in the community and at City Hall; and

WHEREAS, the city council sometimes addresses controversial issues about which people often feel passionately, which at times leads to uncivil behavior; and

WHEREAS, an atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have a damaging effect on the proceedings, on the quality of debate, and on the practice of democracy itself;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Duluth City Council recognizes nine tools of civility that will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face our city. These tools include:

- (a) Pay attention;
- (b) Listen;
- (c) Be inclusive;
- (d) Do not gossip;
- (e) Show respect;
- (f) Be agreeable;
- (g) Apologize;
- (h) Give constructive criticism;
- (i) Take responsibility.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Duluth City Council shall promote the use and adherence of these tools in conducting the business of the council.

Resolution 03-0638 was unanimously adopted.

Approved August 25, 2003

GARY L. DOTY, Mayor