

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Resolution No. 14033

City of Virginia, Minnesota February 11, 2014

Resolution supporting the PolyMet Mining NorthMet Project

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, the City of Virginia is aware that the PolyMet Mining NorthMet Project is proceeding through the joint State and Federal environmental review and permitting process; and

WHEREAS, the metals that PolyMet will mine are essential for daily life – copper, nickel, cobalt, platinum, palladium and gold – found in countless products, including cell phones, computers, joint replacements, medical treatments and devices, wind turbines and catalytic converters; and

WHEREAS, the combination of strict Minnesota regulations and PolyMet’s commitment to mining in a way that protects the environment will serve as a global template for responsible, ethical and successful mining practices; and

WHEREAS, the proposed mining and processing operation will create 360 direct jobs and over 600 indirect jobs in St. Louis County alone; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that the PolyMet Mining project will require 2 million hours of labor during its construction phase; and

WHEREAS, PolyMet Mining will contribute millions of dollars to local cities, school districts and the State through net proceed taxes, occupation taxes, and sales tax; and

WHEREAS, it is stated within the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, US Army Corps of Engineers, and the US Forest Service’s supplemental draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS), “The SDEIS has thoroughly evaluated water quality impacts, and has shown the project will not cause an exceedance of aquatic life water quality standards.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Virginia strongly supports the PolyMet Mining NorthMet Project.

Moved by Councillor **Baribeau** supported by Councillor **Ralston** that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes: **Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Ralston, Baribeau, Baranzelli, Mayor Russo - 6**

Nays: **None**