



## OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK KAREEMAH FOWLER, CITY CLERK

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### **PRESS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DATE** Tuesday, July 31, 2018  
**FROM:** Kareemah Fowler, City Clerk  
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### **City Clerk Kareemah Fowler Announces All City Ordinances Now Available Online**

City Clerk Kareemah Fowler has made it a priority of her office to digitize all historic documents in her care, making them easily accessible to the public. In 2017, all Common Council minute books were digitized and made public. Today, the Clerk's Office is happy to announce that now all individual ordinances dating back to the incorporation of the City of South Bend in 1865 are available for viewing online at <http://docs.southbendin.gov/WebLink/0/fol/88/Row1.aspx>

"Preserving our history and making these historical documents accessible to the public is important to me as the record keeper of the City," said City Clerk Kareemah Fowler. "The very first ordinance approved by the Common Council on June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1865, just after the end of the Civil War when soldiers were returning home, set the original boundaries of the City of South Bend. The digitization of these ordinances will give residents the opportunity to learn and appreciate how our City has grown over a century and a half, just by visiting the City's website."

These ordinances help complete the story that the minutes digitized last year began. The ordinances contain invaluable information on how South Bend organized itself and expanded through the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and were hand-written up until 1901. The handwriting has begun to fade enough to make the books illegible in the near future.

City Clerk Fowler is proud to preserve the City's history for future generations.

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