## **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-**

## RELATIVE TO HONORING MARSHA MCWILSON

BY:

Council Chairman John Spanbauer Council Member Traci Bax Council Member Donta Myles Council Member Kenny Tompkins Council Member David Zajac Mayor Robert M. Restaino

WHEREAS, Niagara Falls' own Marsha McWilson is truly a woman of many gifts and talents; and

**WHEREAS**, the youngest of 12 children, Marsha began singing at 6 years old, as a member of the St. Johns AME Church choir. Her exposure to gospel music helped shape her style, which eventually transformed into the "Inspirational Blues" genre she currently performs today; and

WHEREAS, as a former radio host on the legendary WUFO Mix 1080AM, Marsha made a name for herself as an accomplished Gospel and Blues singer, performing with big names such as David and Tamela Mann, Yolanda Adams, Kim Burrell and Donnie McClurkin. She has appeared on television on Tyler Perry's "If Loving You Is Wrong"; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding her popularity as an entertainer, Marsha McWilson has continued to uphold her faith through music, appearing on the Bobby Jones Gospel Show, and leading a gospel choir down the runway at Fashion Week in Toronto, Ontario. She is also currently evangelist at Zion Dominion Global Ministries; and

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WHEREAS, along with singing and performing with a variety of celebrities, Marsha has received accolades for her contribution to music, as well as her community. In 2002, she was awarded the Humanitarian Award from the City of Niagara Falls. Marsha was also the first Black woman artist to be inducted into the Niagara Falls Music Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, Marsha is also known as a businesswoman, as she successfully opened her own salon called McWilson House of Beauty after graduating from the MarJon School of Beauty Culture in 1994; and

WHEREAS, Marsha has accomplished all of this and more despite several tragedies throughout her life. Marsha has persevered and, through her faith in God, has overcome the barriers holding her back; and

WHEREAS, the City of Niagara Falls is proud to honor its daughter, Marsha McWilson – Wife, Mother, Certified Woman Minority Business Owner, Recording Artist, Television Actress, Motivational Speaker, and so much more. We are all blessed to know her and truly appreciate her many gifts to our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Niagara Falls City Council and Mayor Robert M. Restaino wish to honor Marsha McWilson and recognize her life, talent, dedication and commitment to our City and the community at large by designating October 5, 2022, as "Marsha McWilson Day" in the City of Niagara Falls.