BILL NO. 2023-09 **ORDINANCE NO. 502**

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AN ELECTION TO ANNEX REAL PROPERTY INTO THE NORTHERN CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF WARSAW, MISSOURI, PURSUANT TO RSMo 71.015 AND SUBJECT TO THE APPROVAL BY THE VOTERS OF THE CITY AT THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 4, 2023; DESIGNATING THE FORM OF BALLOT; AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF SAID ELECTION.

The City of Warsaw is currently holding an election to annex into the city limits an additional portion of land lying north of the City Limits, illustrated by the map contained herein. This process requires an election with a majority vote of the citizens of the City. If the annexation passes by majority vote, a judgment for annexation must be obtained in the Circuit Court of Benton County. The layout of the City of Warsaw, namely the body of water and the bend on the southern portion of town creates an obstacle to the expansion of the city for economic and community development. It is difficult to extend utilities to the opposite side of the lake. This leaves the north as a feasible route for the community to grow. A voluntary annexation petition has been received by the City for property located north of, but not contiguous to, the Warsaw city limits.

In the event Annexation is approved by the voters, owners of the proposed annexed property shall be eligible for City services such as water, sanitary sewer and law enforcement. These services will more than likely increase development potential in terms of density, scale, and even types of land use. These services will be consistently maintained at an optimum level. Additional revenue will be generated from taxes and fees paid by annexed property owners and tenants. These increased revenue streams allow the city to invest in other community needs. The proposed annexed area will become subject to the City's laws and regulations. The laws and regulations are intended to protect public health, safety, and general welfare.