

RESOLUTION NO. 2025-R-45

**RESOLUTION DECLARING JULY 20 – JULY 26, 2025, AS “JOHN NEWTON WEEK”
IN THE CITY OF OLNEY**

WHEREAS, John Newton was a prominent Anglican minister, hymn writer, and abolitionist whose legacy continues to inspire people around the world; and

WHEREAS, John Newton is best known for writing the beloved hymn “Amazing Grace,” a song of redemption and hope that has become one of the most recognized and cherished hymns in history; and

WHEREAS, John Newton served as a parish curate in the City of Olney’s Sister City of Olney, Buckinghamshire, England; and

WHEREAS, through his life and ministry, John Newton exemplified a profound transformation and used his voice to advocate for the abolition of slavery, leaving an enduring mark on both spiritual and social history; and

WHEREAS, John Newton was born on July 24, 1725, and July 24, 2025, will mark his 300th birthday; and

WHEREAS, the City of Olney, Illinois, wishes to honor the life and contributions of John Newton, acknowledging the powerful impact of his work on faith, music, and human rights; and

WHEREAS, the week of July 20-July 26, 2025, marks an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate the values of grace, redemption, and justice that John Newton championed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF OLNEY, ILLINOIS, that the Mayor and City Council of the City of Olney, Illinois, that July 20-July 26, 2025, shall be declared as “John Newton Week” in the City of Olney, encouraging residents to recognize and honor the legacy of John Newton and his contributions to faith, music, and human dignity.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Olney, Richland County, Illinois, this 14th day of July, 2025.

AYES	<u>5</u>
NAYS	<u>0</u>
ABSENT	<u>0</u>

ATTEST:



Kelsie J. Sterchi, City Clerk


Mark Lambird, Mayor