

RESOLUTION NO. 050223

Designating February 24-26, 2005, as Fairbanks Scales Days in Kansas City

WHEREAS, 2005 is the 175th anniversary of the founding of Fairbanks Scales, a firm whose corporate headquarters are in Kansas City, Missouri; and

WHEREAS, Thaddeus Fairbanks established a production company in 1823, and manufactured various inventions. Joined in 1824 by brothers Erastus and Joseph, they began the production of weighing machines that were accurate, and therefore quite superior to previous systems. The brothers founded E. & T. Fairbanks Company in St. Johnsbury, Vermont and in 1830, built and patented the first real scale; and

WHEREAS, the scale was instantly popular, and it was particularly fortuitous that the birth of the Fairbanks Company coincided with and contributed to the Industrial Revolution. The Fairbanks brothers manufactured what became the best known American product in the world, and as the years passed, the company faced enormous demand for its products, necessitating great expansion of the company. Offices were opened in Boston and New York, and the scales were being sold throughout Europe. By 1846, the company had expanded its trade to China and Cuba. By 1860, there were few places in the world the scales were not being sold. There was no products superior to the Fairbanks scales; and

WHEREAS, today, after many improvements in design and materials, and increased numbers of patents and acquisitions, the company has continued to be the foremost manufacturer of its kind, and has, throughout the years, always maintained its reputation as a company of high standards, remarkable products, and corporate integrity. The company employs over 500 people nationwide, with offices and service centers in 49 states and more than 25 countries; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council hereby designate February 24-26, 2005, as Fairbanks Scales Days in Kansas City; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be spread among the Minutes of the Council in testimony thereof and that copies hereof be presented to president and chief operating officer Rick Norden, chief executive officer F.A. Norden, chief financial officer Steve Wurtzler, and Ingrid Adel, director of sales and marketing support.
