Mr. Samuel Riddle then present and read the following Preamble and resolutions.

Whereas, The honored and beloved Chief Magistrate of the United States, Abraham Lincoln, has been slain by the assassin and the nation is enshrouded in the habiliments of woe: the Councils of the City of Allegheny have assembled to take actions, in view of this sad public calamity; therefore be it.

Resolved, That the Councils of the City of Allegheny claim the melancholy privilege of recording and subscribing an official minute upon the city records, testifying in terms as forcible as language can convey, their profound sense of the national bereavement, and their utter detestation of the vile spirit of treason.
and secession, the fruitful source of all our national grief.

Resolved, That no public man since the days of Washington has so much filled the popular heart, been so beloved, honored and trusted by the people, as Abraham Lincoln, the second Father of his Country.

Resolved, That in this bloody tragedy none can fail to recognize the climax of all the horrors developed by the spirit of this wicked rebellion. The hecatombs of those slain in battle, murdered by guerrillas, butchered when captives, and starved while in prison, have a fit sequel in the cold blooded assassination of the kind, tender-hearted, genial President, at the very moment when he was engaged in maturing plans for the broadest executive clemency towards those who were plotting against his life.

Resolved, That we accept the lesson of this mysterious providence -- that leniency towards this foul treason and secession were crime, and a rigorous enforcement of the penalties of violated law, justice.

Resolved, That in this sad ordeal the Republic has triumphed over the latest and basest attempt to destroy Republican Government thus indicating the wisdom of our patriot fathers in having provided for the worst conceivable emergencies, “The workman may die, but the work goes on.”

Resolved, That in President Andrew Johnston [sic] we see God’s providence in giving us a man of the people, tried as by fire, who has for many years stood up for the down trodden and persecuted masses of the South; who has dared to suffer for principle – principle which has withstood the fiery ordeal of the past four years. He fully understands the vile spirit of treason and secession, and has the head, the heart, and the arm to deal with it fearlessly and justly.

Resolved, That we hereby pledge to President Andrew Johnston [sic] our hearty and united support, and that of our truly loyal constituency, in the vigorous prosecution of the war against traitor and treason, slavery and aristocracy founded thereon; and in executing the righteous penalties of violated laws upon the guilty authors of this most heinous rebellion.

Resolved, That in token of the deep sorrow which pervades the public heart of this City, the Council Chambers be draped in black, and the members wear the usual badge of mourning for the period of thirty days.

Resolved, That these resolutions be recorded upon the minutes of Councils and subscribed by the members.

James Marshall
Simon Drum
Sam’l Riddle
I. W. Hall
A. H. English
John Atwell
I. B. Smith
R. B. Francis
Geo. N. Miller
Jno Wright
James McBrier

This tribute to Abraham Lincoln written in impeccable handwriting is from the minute books of the Select and Common Councils of Allegheny County, April 1865. HC L&A MS# 205.