

**RESOLUTION OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON, NEW YORK TO ADOPT A MEMORIALIZING RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE AND UNITING FOR PEACE**

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kingston is united against all forms of violence and recognizes that all life is precious; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kingston condemns all forms of racism including but not limited to anti-Semitism and anti-Arab racism, islamophobia, fascism, white supremacy, anti-indigeneity, and xenophobia throughout the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kingston recognizes the urgency of the human rights crises in Palestine and Israel and the need for immediate action; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kingston affirms that a lasting peace that affirms human rights can best be achieved through diplomatic means; and

**WHEREAS**, the conflict in the Middle East has greatly affected many members of our Kingston community in the most intimate and horrifying ways; and

**WHEREAS**, we have seen an outpouring of poignant commentary advocating for peace, charity, and grace and we have also seen how easy it is for bitter denunciation and insidious prejudice to take root; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Kingston recognizes that we have the ability and opportunity to help ease the pain and divisions within our community through a statement of shared understanding.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of Kingston calls upon our leaders in Albany and Washington to continue and extend their efforts to bring about an immediate, mutually agreed upon and permanent ceasefire in Israeli and Palestinian lands to protect and save human lives, to release all hostages, to fund and supply humanitarian aid to victims of this war, and to provide increased support for the security and prosperity of all inhabitants of the region; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that we hereby resolve to focus on holding each other in community, even as we may disagree over issues that are beyond our municipal mandate; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City Clerk is directed to send a copy of this resolution to President Joseph Biden, Senator Charles Schumer, Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Congressman Patrick Ryan, New York Governor Kathy Hochul, State Senator Michelle Hinchey, Assemblywoman Sarahana Shrestha, Ulster County Executive Jen Metzger, Ulster County Legislative Chair Peter Criswell, Ulster County Legislative Majority Leader Abe Uchitelle, Ulster County Legislator Joseph Donaldson, Ulster County Legislator Greg McCullough, and Mayor Steve Noble.