

TOWN OF BURRILLVILLE

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Burrillville Town Council Resolution Condemning the Russian Invasion of Ukraine

- WHEREAS, On February 24, 2022, Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine, its neighbor to the southwest. This illegal and immoral act of war is the largest conventional warfare operation in Europe since World War II; and
- WHEREAS, Ukraine is a democracy of more than 40 million people led by its democratically-elected President Volodymyr Zelensky. Russia is a nation of approximately 145 million led by Vladimir Putin, a former KGB agent, who has been in power in Russia since 2000 and is widely believed across the globe to be a tyrant; and
- WHEREAS, For centuries, Ukraine and its people have suffered greatly due to actions taken by Russia. The Ukrainians declared their independence in 1917, but were invaded and defeated by Lenin and his Russian forces in 1921. From 1932 to 1933, the Ukrainian people suffered from a Stalin-induced famine, called Holodomor in Ukraine, that according to a United Nations statement in 2003, killed approximately 7-10 million people; and
- WHEREAS, More recently, in 2014, Russia broke international law by invading and conquering the Crimean Peninsula from Ukraine. As a result, Russia's actions were condemned by the United Nations and they were suspended by the G8, (Group of 8), which was an inter-governmental political forum from 1997 to 2014, consisting of the United States, Canada, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Russia, which met regularly and sought to foster stability and economic prosperity across the globe. Tragically, as recent events show, Russian President Vladimir Putin has no interest in these noble ideas. Since 2014, Putin and Russia also sowed rebellion and violence in the Donbas region of southeastern Ukraine, in Russia's never-ending quest to de-stabilize the Ukrainian government and democracy in Ukraine; and
- WHEREAS, Thus far, the United Nations has estimated that there have been thousands of casualties, both killed and wounded, since Putin's illegal invasion of Ukraine began. The United Nations also estimates that the invasion has created more than 400,000 refugees; and
- WHEREAS, Thankfully, the world's reaction has been swift and almost unanimous in its condemnation of Putin's actions. NATO is unified in its opposition to this invasion and is supplying the Ukrainian government and military with much-needed weapons and humanitarian goods. Other non-NATO nations are also assisting the Ukraine

government, such as Sweden and Finland. The United Nations has overwhelmingly condemned the Russian attack on Ukraine, and the United States, the European Union and other allies across the globe are also enacting very strict and biting economic sanctions against Russia, particularly in the banking and currency sectors. Also, almost all of Europe and its Western allies have declared their territories to be no fly zones for Russian civilian and military aircraft.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Burrillville hereby declares that it vehemently opposes the illegal invasion of Ukraine by Russia, and this Town Council completely supports the Rhode Island Ukrainian-American community in this time of great crisis;

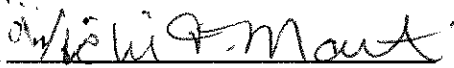
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Ukrainian flag shall fly at Burrillville Town Hall to show our support for Ukrainian freedom from Russian violence and oppression.

Adopted as a resolution this 13th day of April 2022.



Donald A. Fox, President
Burrillville Town Council

ATTEST:



Vicki Martin, Town Clerk

