

## RESOLUTION NO. 2, 2024

**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN IMMEDIATE AND PERMANENT CEASEFIRE IN PALESTINE AND ISRAEL, THE RETURN OF ALL HOSTAGES, AND THE DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN AID; AND AFFIRMING OPPOSITION TO ANTISEMITISM, ISLAMOPHOBIA AND ANTI-ARAB BIGOTRY WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST.**

**WHEREAS**, all human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

**Whereas**, 1,139 Israelis and foreigners were killed by Hamas on October 7th 2023, and over 26,000 Palestinians have been killed since October 7th 2023, with 70 percent of the casualties being women and children; and

**Whereas**, continued hostilities have forced 85% of Palestinians in Gaza (1.9 million people) to flee their homes, being displaced multiple times; and

**Whereas**, more than one hundred Israeli hostages are being held by Hamas and more than 8,000 Palestinians are held without due process under Israeli martial law; and

**Whereas**, more than half of Gaza's homes have been damaged or destroyed, over 370 educational facilities have been damaged, at least 30 of the 35 hospitals in Gaza are not functioning, over 2.2 million people in Gaza are at imminent risk of famine, and 94 journalists have been killed; and

**Whereas**, hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk without an immediate and permanent ceasefire, restoration of basic necessities, and delivery of adequate and unconditional humanitarian aid without delay to Palestinian civilian noncombatants; and

**Whereas**, the United States government holds immense diplomatic power to save Palestinian and Israeli lives, and US law requires that foreign military aid not be used in the contravention of international law; and

**Whereas**, the United States provides ongoing military aid to Israel, as well as humanitarian aid to Palestine; and

**Whereas**, the majority of countries in the United Nations have voted in favor of a ceasefire resolution, and millions of people worldwide, including residents of Terre Haute, have joined in peaceful protests since October 7 to amplify this call; and Whereas, Islamophobia, anti-Palestinian/anti-Arab bigotry, and antisemitism have risen significantly across the United States and around the world because of these events, with direct impacts on communities – from synagogues and mosques to schools, universities, homes, offices, and places where communities gather, as well as at protests and rallies; and

**Whereas**, all of these forms of bigotry, violence, and oppression serve to divide our communities and weaken our efforts to achieve collective safety, justice, and true multi-ethnic, multi-racial, multi-religious democracy here and everywhere.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Terre Haute City Council that:

We unequivocally condemn both the attack on October 7, 2023 on Israeli citizens by Hamas, and the subsequent killing of civilians in Gaza and West Bank by the state of Israel; and

We affirm our commitment to combat anti-Palestinian/anti-Arab bigotry, antisemitism, and Islamophobia; and

We affirm our support for all people in Palestine and Israel to live in peace, justice, and security; and

We affirm our support for the rights of all people, including residents of Terre Haute, to live, learn, work, play, worship, and engage in peaceful protest, all without intimidation, coercion, or the threat of violence; and


We affirm the first amendment rights of all citizens to criticize government or government policy, and affirm that criticism of governments in Israel and Palestine is not inherently antisemitic or anti-Arab; and

We affirm our commitment to US laws requiring that arms transfers be used in accordance with international law; and

We support the delivery of immediate, unconditional, and sufficient humanitarian aid including water, food, energy, shelter, medical and sanitary supplies to the noncombatant people of Gaza; and

We ask our congressional delegation to support all resolutions and legislation that match the values stated in this resolution, especially those aiming to alleviate the urgent humanitarian disaster in Gaza, the release of Israeli hostages, and peaceful diplomatic processes resulting in equal rights for Palestinians and Israelis; and

We direct the Terre Haute City Clerk's Office to provide a copy of this resolution to United States Congressman Larry Buschon, United States Senator Mike Braun, United States Senator Todd Young, and President of the United States Joe Biden.

Introduced by:  Todd Nation, Councilperson

Passed in open Council this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_ Tammy Boland, President

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ Michelle L. Edwards, City Clerk

Presented by me to the Mayor this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024 at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock.

\_\_\_\_\_ Michelle L. Edwards, City Clerk

Approved by me, the Mayor, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_ Brandon C. Sakbun, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_ Michelle L. Edwards, City Clerk