

## **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-043**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE'S CONTINUING QUEST FOR A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC STATE, PROVIDE HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO THOSE SUFFERING IN UKRAINE, DENOUNCING THE ACTIONS OF THE MILITARY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND THEIR PRESIDENT VLADIMIR PUTIN, AND URGING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS ALLIES TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE ACTION TO PUNISH THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, after years of oppression, in 1991, Ukraine won freedom from the Soviet Union's totalitarian dictatorship because of the Ukrainians' desire for a democratic state; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 8, 1994, Ukraine was the first member state of the Commonwealth of Independent States to join the Partnership for Peace program of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and has since deepened its relationship with NATO, recognized as an Enhanced Opportunities Partner; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 5, 1994, in an effort to solidify security commitments to Ukraine in return for its nuclear disarmament, the United States, the Russian Federation, and the United Kingdom signed the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances, whereby each country pledged to respect the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine's borders while refraining from the threat or use of force against Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida love our freedoms and support other people's efforts to enjoy the very same freedoms the residents of the Town enjoy; and

**WHEREAS**, over the past three decades, the Russian Federation has illegally seized Ukrainian land in Crimea, armed Russian-backed separatists leading to thousands of Ukrainian deaths, interfered in Ukrainian elections, used chemical weapons to attempt assassinations in Ukraine, carried out cyberattacks and disinformation campaigns abroad, and violated international arms control agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, at least 14,000 Ukrainians have been killed defending their homeland and millions more displaced since the invasion from Russia began; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 23, 2022, the Russian military began a brutal assault on the people of Ukraine without provocation, justification, or necessity; and

**WHEREAS**, the Russian Federation has flagrantly violated international law in its attempt to seize the Ukrainian territory; and

**WHEREAS**, lasting peace and prosperity require respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida:

**Section 1:** The Town Council hereby commends the courage, resolve, and restraint shown by the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of freedom, sovereignty and democracy, and pays tribute to the many men and women who have given their lives in pursuit of a free and democratic Ukraine.

**Section 2:** The Town Council hereby denounces Russia's unprovoked and unjustified invasion of Ukraine and call upon the Russian Federation to immediately cease fire and vacate all Russian forces from the areas of the sovereign state and territory of Ukraine.

**Section 3:** The Town Council hereby supports and stands in solidarity with the people of Ukraine and Ukraine's fight to defend its sovereignty, territorial integrity, and the freedom of its citizens.

**Section 4:** The Town Council hereby urges the United States federal government and its allies and all nations to take substantive action to punish the Russian Federation for its evil actions and restore peace in Europe, including but not limited to removing all Russian financial institutions from the SWIFT payments system.

**Section 5:** The Town Council hereby urges the United States federal government and its allies to provide humanitarian relief to those suffering in Ukraine, and to encourage all United States Citizens and residents to provide support and humanitarian relief through vetted non-governmental organizations.

**Section 6:** The Town Council hereby supports the United States federal government and its allies' actions to freeze financial assets and seize properties of the Russian Federation and its Oligarchs.

**Section 7:** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Town Council of the Town of Southwest

Ranches, Florida, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2022, on a motion by

Cm. Kuczenski and seconded by Cm. Allbritton.

Breitkreuz	<u>Yes</u>
Jablonski	<u>Yes</u>
Allbritton	<u>Yes</u>
Hartmann	<u>Yes</u>
Kuczenski	<u>Yes</u>

Ayes	<u>5</u>
Nays	<u>0</u>
Absent	<u>0</u>

[Signature]  
Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

ATTEST:

[Signature]  
Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

[Signature]  
Keith Pollakoff, J.D., Town Attorney  
1001.971.01