

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-001

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF SOUTHWEST RANCHES, FLORIDA, SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL AMIDST THEIR ONGOING FIGHT AGAINST TERRORISM, DENOUNCING THE BRUTAL AND UNPROVOKED ACTIONS OF THE MILITANT GROUP HAMAS, AND URGING THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ITS ALLIES TO TAKE SUBSTANTIVE ACTION TO DENOUNCE AND CONDEMN THESE TERRORIST ACTS; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on Saturday October 7, 2023 the State of Israel was the victim of a series of brutal and unprovoked cowardly terrorist attacks by the militant group HAMAS a designated Foreign Terrorist Organization by the United States Department of State; and

WHEREAS, these terrorist acts largely targeted innocent civilians and killed hundreds of Israeli men, women, and children, and hostages were also taken; and

WHEREAS, among those killed were 22 American citizens as of the date of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, President Joe Biden officially stated that the United States unequivocally condemns this appalling assault against Israel by Hamas terrorists from Gaza and that Israel has a right to defend its people; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these terrorist acts, Israel has launched a counteroffensive to secure the release of hostages taken to punish the terrorist entity, and to secure its border from further infiltration by HAMAS from the Gaza Strip; and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 672,465 Jewish people living in Florida and the Town of Southwest Ranches, Florida has a significant Jewish and Israeli population, of whom have loved ones currently in harms' way; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches unequivocally supports the State of Israel's right to defend itself and its citizens and visitors against such attacks; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Southwest Ranches calls on the United States federal government to put aside their differences and unite to denounce and condemn these outrageous terrorist acts.

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

Section 1: The Town Council hereby denounces the cowardly terrorist acts of the militant group HAMAS, and stands in solidarity with the State of Israel, the Israeli military, and all people of Israel who are hurting, grieving, and outraged by the tragic attack on their country.

Section 2: The Town Council hereby urges the United States federal government and its allies and all nations to take substantive action to denounce and condemn these terrorist acts and take any and all actions to safely secure the release of all Americans wrongfully kidnapped and detained by HAMAS.

Section 3: The Town Clerk is directed to send a copy of this Resolution to the Broward County Commission, the leadership of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, Governor Ron DeSantis, our representatives in the United States Congress, and President Joe Biden.

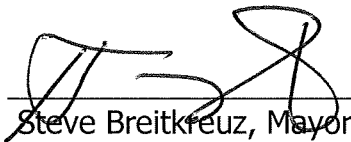
Section 4: This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

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

Ranches, Florida, this 12th day of October, 2023, on a motion by

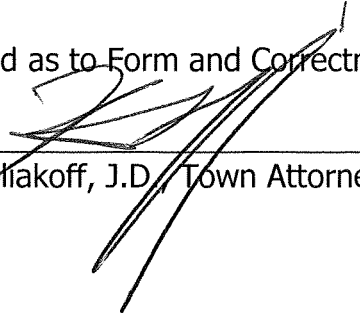
CM KUCZENSKI and seconded by CM HARTMANN.

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|------------|------------|--------|----------|
| Breitkreuz | <u>YES</u> | Ayes | <u>5</u> |
| Allbritton | <u>YES</u> | Nays | <u>0</u> |
| Hartmann | <u>YES</u> | Absent | <u>0</u> |
| Jablonski | <u>YES</u> | | |
| Kuczenski | <u>YES</u> | | |


Steve Breitkreuz, Mayor

ATTEST:

Russell Muñiz, Assistant Town Administrator/Town Clerk

Approved as to Form and Correctness:

Keith Poliakoff, J.D., Town Attorney