



RESOLUTION

WHEREAS: On October 7, 2023, the terrorist group Hamas launched a surprise attack from Gaza on multiple civilian population centers in Southern Israel.

WHEREAS: These attacks included firing thousands of rockets into civilian areas, terrorist door-to-door raids in neighborhoods, and an assault on a music festival where over 260 people were indiscriminately murdered, brutally shot, assaulted, and kidnapped.

WHEREAS: More than 1,300 Israelis – mostly civilians – have been killed by terrorists and several thousands more have been critically wounded.

WHEREAS: Terrorists kidnapped untold dozens of Israeli men, women, children, toddlers, and infants – including Holocaust survivors and American citizens.

WHEREAS: On October 11, 2023, the United States Department of State confirmed that at least twenty-two American citizens were killed in these attacks.

WHEREAS: On October 7, 2023, the President of the United States issued the following statement: "The United States unequivocally condemns this appalling assault against Israel by Hamas terrorists from Gaza, and I made clear to Prime Minister Netanyahu that we stand ready to offer all appropriate means of support to the Government and people of Israel. Terrorism is never justified. Israel has a right to defend itself and its people. The United States warns against any other party hostile to Israel seeking advantage in this situation. My Administration's support for Israel's security is rock solid and unwavering."

WHEREAS: The City of Virginia Beach is a community of all faiths, and the Hampton Roads Region is home to the second largest Jewish Community in the Commonwealth of Virginia, tracing its roots to the 1700's.

WHEREAS: The United States and Israel have long been close allies with support across the political spectrum.

WHEREAS: The City of Virginia Beach unequivocally condemns the Hamas terrorist attacks and extends its unwavering support to the State of Israel and all of its Jewish, Christian, Muslim, and other citizens.

WHEREAS: The City of Virginia Beach also supports a peaceful future for the Palestinian people.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Virginia Beach City Council pause in its deliberations to condemn the terrorist attacks committed by Hamas against the people of Israel, to express its support for an enduring peace between Israelis and Palestinians, and to exhibit our solidarity with the State of Israel and the Jewish people of Virginia Beach and Hampton Roads during this unprecedented and difficult time.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia the 17th day of October 2023 and present this Resolution duly signed by each Member of the Virginia Beach City Council.



Council Member Michael F. Berlucchi


Council Member Barbara M. Henley



Council Member Robert W. "Worth" Remick



Council Member Amelia N. Ross-Hammond



Council Member Jennifer Rouse



Council Member Joashua F. "Joash" Schulman



Council Member Chris Taylor



Council Member Sabrina D. Wooten



Vice Mayor Rosemary Wilson



Mayor Robert M. "Bobby" Dyer