RESOLUTION NO. 2336

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLANDS, FLORIDA, CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE STATE OF ISRAEL AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL'S PEOPLE; PROVIDING FOR INCORPORATION OF RECITALS; PROVIDING FOR DISTRIBUTION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2023, the State of Israel endured an unprovoked, tragic, and heinous act of terror orchestrated by the extremist group Hamas; and

WHEREAS, Hamas breached Israel's border and infiltrated and decimated Israeli communities, burning, gunning down and slaughtering innocent babies, children, women, men, entire families, and the elderly – including Holocaust survivors – in their homes, in their cars, and on the streets; gunning down young people celebrating peace at music festival; raping women; mutilating dead bodies; and abducting innocent civilians and tourists of all ages and holding them hostage; and

WHEREAS, thousands of innocent men, women and children are being brutally attacked and murdered by Hamas terrorists; and

WHEREAS, Israel has officially declared a state of war against Hamas; and

WHEREAS, Israel was founded in 1948 as the homeland for the Jewish people and there are over 672,465 Jewish people living in Florida; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands, Florida has a significant Jewish and Israeli population, many of whom have loved ones currently in harm's way; and

WHEREAS, countries world-wide have expressed their unequivocal support of Israel and its right to defend its citizens from these unprovoked and vicious attacks in a manner designed to promptly end such attacks and deter similar attacks in the future, while minimizing the loss of life among civilian non-combatants; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Town Council share Israel's grief for the hundreds of civilians who have been killed or captured in this horrific act of terrorism; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Bay Harbor Islands strongly supports the sovereignty of Israel and recognizes its right to self-defense and to protect its citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BAY HARBOR ISLANDS, FLORIDA.

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are hereby ratified as true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

<u>Section 2.</u> The Town Council expresses its support for Israel's right to exist peacefully and condemns Hamas' brutal unprovoked war on Israel and her citizens and visitors, and denounces the terrorist actions of Hamas, and opposes hate, extremism, and violence.

<u>Section 3.</u> The Town strongly supports Israel's right to defend itself and its citizens and visitors against such attacks including, but not limited to, taking all necessary actions against these terrorist organizations, all necessary actions to protect itself and its citizens and visitors, and all appropriate action seeking the safe return of the hostages taken by Hamas and other affiliated terrorist organizations.

<u>Section 4.</u> The Town urges President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., and the United States Congress to reaffirm the United States' commitment to Israel's security and provide emergency resupply and other security, diplomatic, and intelligence support to Israel.

<u>Section 5.</u> The Town Clerk is directed to forward a copy of this Resolution to the Consul General of Israel in Miami, the Greater Jewish Federation of Miami, Miami-Dade County Commission, and all Miami-Dade County municipalities.

Section 6. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon approval.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Town of Bay Parbor Islands at the regular meeting assembled this 8th day of November, 2023.

By:

Elizabeth Tricoche - Mayor

TTO CIT.

Yvonne P. Hamilton

Town Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL

SUFFIENCY:

Greenspoon Marder LLP

Town Attorneys

By: Joseph S. Geller, Esq.