

A Ceasefire Resolution for ^{the} Watsonville City Council,

presented by

Takashi Mizuno (District 2)
Kathryn Mizuno (District 7)
Lourdes Bazaara (District 1)
Ihlam Farhat (District 2)

February 27th 2024.

Takashi

Dear City Council members of the City of Watsonville February 27th, 2024

We, members of the public, request a ceasefire resolution, which was drafted by us, to be placed on the agenda in ~~the~~ regular Council meeting ~~on~~ March ~~12th~~ 2024, based on the updated protocols below, passed and adopted by the City Council members on April 11th 2023.

" B. Members of the Public: A member of the public may request an item be placed on a future agenda during public comment or through other communication with City Council members. Any Council Member may present this request to the Council pursuant to the procedure outlined above. "

We present a ceasefire resolution authored by Takashi Mizuno, and supported by Ihlam Farhat, Lourdes Barraza and Kathryn Mizuno.

Sincerely,

*

Ihlam

~~Ihlan~~ Farhat (District 7)

Takashi Mizuno

Takashi Mizuno (District 7)

Lourdes H. Barraza

Lourdes Barraza (District 1)

Kathryn Mizuno

Kathryn Mizuno (District 7)

* We were supposed to have Ihlam's signature today
but she is ~~a~~ sick and unable to be present.
T.M

FOR WATSONVILLE CITY COUNCIL

CALLING FOR A SUSTAINED CEASEFIRE IN GAZA, IMMEDIATE HUMANITARIAN AID, RELEASE OF ALL HOSTAGES OF BOTH SIDES, AND CONDEMNING ANTISEMITIC, ANTI-PALESTINIAN, ISLAMOPHOBIC AND XENOPHOBIC RHETORIC AND ATTACKS

WHEREAS ; The City Council of the City of Watsonville unanimously passed a resolution of formerly apologizing for the actions taken by the city's residents against the Filipinos in Watsonville , particularly in the 1920's and 1930's and commending these Filipino Nationals and their children , the Filipino Americans, for their notable accomplishments and contributions to the Pajaro Valley on November 10th 2020. And,

WHEREAS ; The City Council of the City of Watsonville unanimously passed a resolution to denounce hate crimes and bigotry targeting Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders on April 13th 2021. And,

WHEREAS ; Palestinian Americans in Watsonville have been calling on the City council of the City of Watsonville to pass a ceasefire resolution since the fall of 2023. A third generation Palestinian American stated in her letter to the City Council, " As a third generation native, I see Palestinians within the souls of the people of our community, Watsonville, home of the strawberry fields, the Indigenous, the cultured and the resilient. " And

WHEREAS; There has been a sense of fear and feeling of not being welcomed among some Jewish Americans in our community in Watsonville and beyond, after the terrible attack of the people in Israel, including farmworkers from Thailand, by Hamas and other Palestinian groups on October 7th, 2023. And

WHEREAS ; It has been unbearable for some citizens , especially Palestinian and Arab Americans in our community in Watsonville and beyond , to see and hear every day pain and sufferings of their innocent Palestinian families and friends in Gaza and the West Bank inflicted upon them by the Israel military since October 7th 2023, which is aided by our tax payer money from the United States. And

WHEREAS ; The International Court of Justice ruled on January 26th , 2024, that The State of Israel shall, in accordance with its obligations under the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, in relation to Palestinians in Gaza, take all measures within its power to prevent the commission of all acts within the scope of Article II of this Convention, in particular:

(a) killing members of the group;

(b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;

(c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; and

(d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;

The State of Israel shall ensure with immediate effect that its military does not commit any acts described in point 1 above;

The State of Israel shall take all measures within its power to prevent and punish the direct and public incitement to commit genocide in relation to members of the Palestinian group in the Gaza Strip;

The State of Israel shall take immediate and effective measures to enable the provision of urgently needed basic services and humanitarian assistance to address the adverse conditions of life faced by Palestinians in the Gaza Strip;

The State of Israel shall take effective measures to prevent the destruction and ensure the preservation of evidence related to allegations of acts within the scope of Article II and Article III of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide against members of the Palestinian group in the Gaza Strip;

The State of Israel shall submit a report to the Court on all measures taken to give effect to this Order within one month as from the date of this Order.

WHEERAS ; Amnesty International Secretary General Agnes Callamard stated on January 26th in 2024 ; “ An immediate ceasefire by all parties remains essential and – although not ordered by the Court – is the most effective condition to implement the provisional measures and end unprecedented civilian suffering.”

THEREFORE IT RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Watsonville calls for a sustained ceasefire, immediate humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Council of the City of Watsonville condemns Antisemitic, anti-Palestinian , Islamophobic, and Xenophobic rhetoric and attacks. And be it

FURTHER RESOLVED , That the City of Council of the City of Watsonville calls for President Biden, US Senator Alex Padilla, US Senator Laphonza Butler, US House of Representative Zoe Lofgren to call for sustained ceasefire, immediate humanitarian aid in Gaza, and the release of all hostages and condemns Antisemitic, anti-Palestinian, Islamophobic and Xenophobic rhetoric and attacks.