



THE MAYOR AND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
of the  
BOROUGH OF GLEN RIDGE  
County of Essex  
State of New Jersey

Monday, September 12, 2022

**RESOLUTION NO. 131-22**

Offered by Councilor **LEFKOVITS**  
Seconded by Councilor

**IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE AND THEIR SOVEREIGNTY**

**WHEREAS**, on January 21, 1990, more than 300,000 Ukrainians formed a human chain between Kyiv and Ivano-Frankivsk in an effort to bring forth unity and independence from the Soviet Union; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 1, 1991, a national referendum in support of independence was voted upon by more than 90 percent of Ukrainian citizens, with majorities in every region; and

**WHEREAS**, under the guise of military exercises, the Russian military conducted a large-scale buildup in and around Ukraine in March and April 2021, leaving significant military equipment behind; and

**WHEREAS**, subsequent thereto, in October 2021, the Russian military conducted an even larger military backup that culminated in approximately 190,000 forces by the time of Russia's renewed full-scale incursion on February 24, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 21, 2022, the State Duma of Russia passed a bill that was approved by President Vladimir Putin to officially recognize the self-proclaimed Luhansk People's Republic and Donetsk People's Republic as independent, and then ordered troops into those territories after recognizing their independence; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 24, 2022, Russian forces, enabled by Belarus, launched its unprovoked full-scale renewed invasion of the peaceful, independent country of Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the right of all countries to decide its own future, foreign policy and security arrangements free from outside interference and/or coercion; and

**WHEREAS**, also on February 24, 2022, the G7 issued a statement condemning the "large-scale military aggression by the Russian Federation against the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine"; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 25, 2022, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) condemned "in the strongest possible terms Russia's horrifying attack on Ukraine", called on Russia "to turn back from the path of violence and aggression" and reaffirmed an "iron-clad" commitment to Article 5; and

**WHEREAS**, the European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom and Canada, along with the United States, committed to coordinated economic sanctions, including severe restrictions against Russia's Central Bank and full blocking sanctions against Vladimir Putin; and

**WHEREAS**, United States leadership is integral to nations around the world in condemning and imposing costs on the Russian Federation for its illegal, full-scale, renewed invasion of Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that Russian forces have targeted civilians which would constitute war crimes and crimes against humanity; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States, along with allies in Europe, the Indo-Pacific and others around the world, has been actively responding to Russia's unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine with critical military, humanitarian and financial support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey has numerous residents of Ukrainian descent, some of whom are located in the Borough of Glen Ridge and neighboring communities; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the best interests of the residents of the Borough to support the people of Ukraine in protecting their sovereignty.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Borough Council of the Borough of Glen Ridge that it:

- Unequivocally supports Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- Affirms the continued use of peaceful methods including sanctions by the United States (as well as its allies and partners) to fully isolate the Putin regime economically for its unprovoked aggression against Ukraine; Supports the resistance by the Ukrainian people as long as the Russian Federation continues to violate Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- Declares that the war in Ukraine, a democratic country, represents the frontline of democracy and freedom versus authoritarianism represented by Putin's government;
- Supports the State of New Jersey's suspension of relationships with businesses and financial institutions backed by the Russian government; and
- Stands steadfastly, staunchly, proudly and fervently behind the Ukrainian people in their fight against the authoritarian Putin regime; and
- Authorizes the display of the Ukrainian flag and/or displays (including bunting) of the Ukrainian national colors (blue and/or yellow) on public property within the Borough as determined by the Borough Administrator subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 52:3-4
- Authorizes public donations of the Ukrainian flag and/or displays (including bunting) of the Ukrainian national colors (blue and/or yellow) to be used and/or displayed, if at all, as determined by the Borough Administrator subject to the requirements of N.J.S.A. 52:3-4

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Borough Clerk shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to Governor Phil Murphy, members of the Legislature representing the 28th Legislative District, and the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.