

RESOLUTION NO. 38-2022, *First Reading*

By Mayor Seren, Council President Hart,
Vice President Cobb, and Council Members
Russell, Moore, Mattox, Cuda, and Larson

A Resolution condemning the Russian Federation's military invasion of Ukraine and expressing support for Ukraine.

WHEREAS, on or about February 24, 2022, the Russian Federation launched an unprovoked full-scale military invasion of its sovereign neighbor, Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, there have been reports of indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian facilities, including residences, schools, and hospitals, in violation of the laws of war and resulting in a humanitarian crisis in which many people are displaced and in need of refuge and assistance; and

WHEREAS, the Russian Federation's aggressive use of armed force and violence against the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of Ukraine and its escalating threats of nuclear war toward the United States and other NATO members are clear threats to international peace and security founded upon freedom, equality, justice, and respect for human rights as well as democracy and democratic values worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the European Union, the United States, and many other countries, companies, and organizations have imposed swift and severe economic and financial sanctions and taken other punitive actions against Russia in response to its government's invasion of Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Russians have participated in anti-war demonstrations and protests across Russia opposing their government's military invasion of Ukraine at great personal risk and facing government suppression of free speech and civil liberties; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland area is home to Ohio's largest Ukrainian community, with many residents having roots in Ukraine, and family and friends still living there; and

WHEREAS, since 2018 hundreds of Ukrainians have re-settled in Ohio, mostly in the Cleveland area, and Ohio and Northeast Ohio are preparing to welcome and support even more Ukrainian refugees; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, supports the United States' continued commitment to a strong, independent, and democratic Ukraine and friendship between the people of the United States and Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, supports the efforts of the European Union, the United States, and the international community to impose financial and economic sanctions targeting the Russian government, government officials, political elites, and

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business oligarchs and their companies in order to isolate Russia from the world's economy and the international community with the objective of ending the war.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, that:

SECTION 1. The Council and Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, condemn the Russia Federation's unprovoked military invasion of Ukraine and aggressive use of armed force and violence against the Ukrainian people.

SECTION 2. The Council and Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, support the Ukrainian people, their freedom, equality, and rights to life, liberty, and security, as well as the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of Ukraine and its democratic government.

SECTION 3. The Council and Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, support those Russian people demonstrating and protesting against their government's unjust war against Ukraine at the risk of personal harm, arrest and imprisonment.

SECTION 4. The Council and Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, endorse the use of targeted economic and financial sanctions by the European Union, the United States, and the international community against the Russian Federation until its military ceases to wage war against Ukraine and withdraws from the territory of Ukraine.

SECTION 5. The Council and Mayor of the City of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, encourage Cleveland Heights residents with the means to do so to donate to non-profits supporting the Ukrainian people and Ukrainian refugees, including but not limited to organizations such as United Ukrainian Organizations of Ohio's Fund to Aid Ukraine, Cleveland Maiden Association, Global Cleveland, and MedWish International.

SECTION 6. Notice of the passage of this Ordinance shall be given by publishing the title and abstract of its contents, prepared by the Director of Law, once in one newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cleveland Heights.

SECTION 7. This Resolution shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time permitted by law.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Melody Joy Hart". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melody" being the most prominent.

MELODY JOY HART
President of Council



AMY HIMMELEIN
Clerk of Council

PASSED: March 21, 2022

Presented to Mayor: March 23, 2022

Approved: March 24, 2022



KAHLIL SEREN
Mayor