31ST BOARD OF REPRESENTATIVES CITY OF STAMFORD

President
JEFF CURTIS
Clerk of the Board
MEGAN COTTRELL

Majority Leader
NINA SHERWOOD
Minority Leader
MARY L. FEDELI

RESOLUTION NO. 4195 RECOGNIZING A SISTER CITY RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TOWN OF KRAMATORSK, UKRAINE AND STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT

WHEREAS, the Sister City Program was initiated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1956 to encourage greater friendship and understanding between the United States and other nations through direct personal contact; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Kramatorsk, Ukraine, is joining the City of Stamford in a Sister City Partnership; and

WHEREAS, Kramatorsk, Ukraine, is a town that, pre-war, had a population of about 220,000 (87,000 as of now) people in the Gromada of Kramatorsk, which includes 5 settlements, in the Donetsk Oblast (region) of East Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, Kramatorsk is the regional capital of Donetsk Oblast, which used to house all regional administrative structures, such as regional state administration, regional employment center, regional justice department, chamber of commerce, and others. Since March 2022, these centers have, for the most part, been heavily damaged and shut down; and

WHEREAS, Kramatorsk is renowned for being a manufacturing hub which housed many large enterprises, primarily in machine building and metalwork industries, also therefore attracting an educated labor force. It was also a well-known educational center of Donetsk Oblast. Pre-war, Kramatorsk was highly engaged in renewable resources projects, and even started to build windmill farms in the months leading to invasion; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact that their train station was destroyed, Kramatorsk has remained a transportation hub for civilians fleeing and relocating from the war, taking in over 1,500 refugees. As of now, it is the only city which has hospitals and clinics that take in patients from the entire region of Donetsk Oblast; and

WHEREAS, Stamford residents with roots in Ukraine are among Stamford's most prominent and successful citizens, and serve their Stamford community in many ways, through charitable contributions, volunteer work and participation in government; and

WHEREAS, those from Ukraine who have made Stamford their home have set the stage for the establishment of a Sister City relationship as an informal cultural, social and economic exchange is already in place between the residents of Stamford and Ukraine.

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the 31st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford recognizes the partnership between the City of Stamford and the Town of Kramatorsk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the 31st Board of Representatives of the City of Stamford recognizes and congratulates the Town of Kramatorsk, Ukraine and its Mayor, Alexander Goncharenko, on the occasion of the establishment of this Sister City relationship.

This resolution was approved on the Consent Agenda at the regular meeting of the 31st Board of Representatives held on April 3, 2023.

Jeff Curtis, President

31st Board of Representatives

Megan ottrell, Clerk

31st Board of Representatives

cci Mayor Caroline Simmons

Tom Cassone, Esq., Director of Legal Affairs

Lyda Ruijter, Town & City Clerk

Sandra L. Dennies, Director of Administration

Matthew Quiñones, Director of Operations

Elda Sinani, Director of OPM

Loren Nadres, Director of Economic Development

Lou DeRubeis, Director of Public Safety, Health & Welfare

Bridget Fox, Chief of Staff