## **PROCLAMATION IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINE**

**WHEREAS**, the people of Ukraine gained their independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991, have built a democratic and pluralistic society, which allows for freedom of religion, speech and fosters the growth of their rich culture allowing them to take their rightful place on the world stage; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 24, 2022, Russian forces, under the direction of Vladimir Putin, launched an invasion of Ukraine and, after two weeks of bloody conflict, has tragically left nearly 2,000 Ukraine citizens and soldiers dead and hundreds more injured as well as forced 2.5 million civilians to flee; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States has condemned this unprovoked and unjustified attack, and reassured that it supports all actions taken by the Ukrainian military and its citizens in defending Ukraine; and

**WHEREAS**, Oregon is home to more than 20,000 Ukrainian Americans who bring with them their identity, work ethic and strengthen our communities, and many have come to Benton County as immigrants and been welcomed with open arms despite leaving persecution in Russia, and all the while have contributed and flourished in our communities across Oregon and Benton County; and

**WHEREAS,** the City of Monroe encourages its residents, neighbors, and friends to donate to any verified organizations, including the following, in Benton County, Oregon, the United States, Poland, and Ukraine, which will work to mitigate the humanitarian crisis caused by this conflict in Ukraine:

- Corvallis Sister Cities Association Uzhhorod: (https://sistercities.corvallis.or.us/)
- Ukrainian Red Cross: (<u>https://donate.redcrossredcrescent.org/ua/donate</u>)
- Polish Red Cross: (<u>https://pck.pl/wspieraj-nas/</u>)
- GlobalGiving Ukraine Crisis Relief: (<u>https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/ukraine-crisis-relief-fund/</u>)
- UNICEF: (<u>https://www.unicefusa.org/stories/unicef-children-crossfire-ukraine-crisis/39542</u>)

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Dan Sheets, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Monroe, do hereby proclaim support for the brave citizens of Ukraine who are facing their darkest hour against Russian military forces. We recognize all those who are fighting for freedom and democracy in Ukraine and all of the casualties and sacrifices that are being made by Ukrainians. We hold dear in our hearts the civilians who have taken up arms in this just cause and stand with the people of Ukraine. **#standwithukraine** 



DATED this 14th day of March, 2022.

Dan Sheets, Mayor