

Proclamation

City of North Port



Whereas, twenty-eight years ago on August 24, 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine acceded to the will of the Ukrainian people by formally declaring an independent Ukrainian state, thereby taking the first step towards establishing a free and democratic state; and ending the brutal totalitarian regime whose crimes against humanity cost the lives of millions of Ukrainians; and

Whereas, after centuries of foreign domination, under both the Russian Empire and then the Soviet totalitarian regime, today unfortunately, Ukrainians continue to struggle against Russian sponsored attempts to eradicate their nation of close to 60 million; and

Whereas, the massive pro-democracy rallies that began in November of 2013 as a result of the former tyrannical government's abrupt refusal to sign the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement, morphed into a demand for human rights and respect – becoming known worldwide as the Revolution of Dignity. For months the citizens of Ukraine stood at the front-lines of defense not only for their own freedom, but for the freedom of the entire trans-Atlantic alliance. While the world looked on, they courageously withstood bloody assaults, murders, tortures and executions. Still, they continued to stand together and demand the rule of law and the right to live with dignity in a civil society; and

Whereas, under direct threat from Russia's unrelenting aggressive behavior vis-à-vis Ukraine, including Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea, and Russian-supported terrorists in the Donbas region, the brave people of Ukraine, in their struggle to maintain the internationally recognized territorial integrity of Ukraine as sovereign and inviolable, pulled off a democratic triumph by freely electing their president and proving to the world that they are committed to democracy, sovereignty and national unity; and

Whereas, the efforts of Ukrainians around the world to preserve their language, culture and history must be acknowledged and encouraged, so that this effort continues for the sake of future generations. Such preservation has allowed Ukrainians to make significant contributions to the culture and society of the United States.

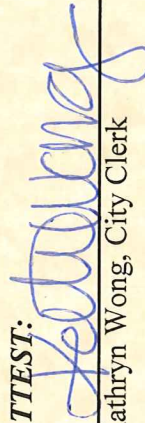
Now, Therefore, WE, the City Commission of the City of North Port, Florida, do hereby proclaim August 24, 2019 as the

Twenty-Eighth Anniversary of Ukrainian Independence Day

and urge all citizens to join in commemorating this momentous event in the history of the Ukrainian nation. On this day, let us recommit ourselves to helping the Ukrainian nation reclaim its rightful place in the international democratic community and remember the Heavenly Hundred, and hundreds of other heroes, who sacrificed their lives to ensure freedom and happiness of the future generations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *WE* have hereunto set our hands and seal of the City of North Port, Florida, to be affixed this 11th day of July 2019.

ATTEST:


Kathryn Wong, City Clerk

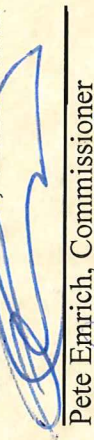


CITY OF NORTH PORT, FLORIDA


Christopher Hanks, Mayor


Debbie McDowell, Vice-Mayor


Vanessa Carusone, Commissioner


Pete Enrich, Commissioner


Jill Luke, Commissioner