



OFFICE OF THE
CITY ATTORNEY

DEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE



Kit Williams
City Attorney

Blake Pennington
Assistant City Attorney

Jodi Batker
Paralegal

TO: Mayor Jordan
City Council
Kara Paxton, City Clerk/Treasurer

CC: Susan Norton, Chief of Staff
Paul Becker, Chief Financial Officer

FROM: Kit Williams, City Attorney

DATE: March 1, 2022

RE: Resolution to support the Ukrainian military and citizen volunteers in their resistance against the Russian invaders

After months of lies by Vladimir Putin and his cronies that he was not planning to invade Ukraine despite massing almost all of Russia's army on the Ukraine border, Vlad gave the illegal order for Russia's unprovoked attack guaranteeing thousands of deaths. Ukraine had never threatened Russia nor its people before this massive unprovoked Russian invasion. Putin has now attained war criminal status.

If Putin believed that the Ukrainian military and its patriotic citizens would surrender without a fight, he was sorely mistaken. It is clear that the Russian army is much larger and better equipped than Ukraine's military. True heroism occurs when an outmanned and outgunned force stands strong and resolute against a larger and more powerful invader. History has revealed that sometimes, "it is not the size of the dog in the fight, but the size of the fight in the dog."

Ukraine may eventually be overwhelmed by the much larger invading Russian army, with support of the Russian Air Force and Navy, but one must admire the courage and determination of the Ukrainian military and especially its patriotic leadership and citizens in their defense of the liberty and homeland.

Attached is the informative Editorial of the Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette of Monday, February 28, 2022 detailing Putin's lies and duplicity leading up to this unprovoked and illegal invasion.

EDITORIALS



COLUMNIST

Who but us?

Central to much of the skepticism regarding America's involvement in the crisis in Ukraine is the question: "Who are we?"

Who are we, with our long history of invasions and interventions, to lecture Vladimir Putin about respecting national sovereignty and international law? Who are we, with our

OPINION



Bret Stephens

its own sports betting content. The second app could be operated with al argument, then let the chips fall where they may.

Duplicity, you say?

Wait here while we clutch our pearls

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE
 Give thanks to factcheck.org, many news sites on the internet, and our own newspaper archives. Because of them, the rest of us have learned another lesson when dealing with the Russians and Vladimir Putin. With this guy, maybe the standard operating phrase should be Don't Trust, Just Verify.

Nov. 12: Dmitry Peskov, spokesman for Vlad the Impaler, said this about plans his country had for invading Ukraine: The very idea was "a hollow and unfounded attempt to incite tensions." And "Russia doesn't threaten anyone. The movement of troops on our territory shouldn't be a cause for anyone's concern."

Nov. 21: Mr. Peskov again: "This hysteria is being artificially whipped up. We are being accused of some kind of unusual military activity on our territory by those who have brought in their armed forces from across the ocean. That is, the United States of America. It's not really logical or polite."

Nov. 22: Mr. Peskov in Pravda, which is to say, to his own people: "Russia does not harbor any aggressive plans. It is completely wrong to say the opposite, and it is completely wrong to associate any movement of the Russian Armed Forces across the territory of our country with such plans. This is not true."

just lies — I mean those very fakes."

Jan. 28: In a radio interview, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said: "There won't be a war as far as it depends on the Russian Federation. We don't want a war. But we won't let our interests be rudely trampled on and ignored."

Feb. 12: Sergey Lavrov was on a phone call with this nation's secretary of state, and accused the United States of "engaging in a propaganda campaign against Russia." On the same day, Putin's top foreign policy aide brushed aside all the invasion warnings, saying the situation "has simply been brought to the point of absurdity."

Feb. 13: When American spooks started spreading the word that the invasion could happen any day, the Russian Foreign Ministry's spokesperson said: "American politicians have lied, are lying and will continue to lie, creating pretext to attack civilians around the world."

Feb. 16: The papers say "Russia's Defense Ministry said Tuesday that some troops deployed from military districts bordering Ukraine were being loaded onto trains and trucks and sent back to their garrison, marking Russia's latest step away from the threat of an invasion." NATO commanders said that sounded good and all, but they hadn't noticed any such thing.

Feb. 17: According to Bloomberg: "Russian officials said no invasion of

Ukraine was underway and none was planned. But the Kremlin said in an official response to the Biden administration's proposed security assurances that the offers were unsatisfactory and Russia might have to resort to unspecified "military-technical measures."

Jan. 11: At a press conference, the Russian deputy foreign minister in Geneva said: "Essentially it is said that Russia wants to trade its, quote-unquote, threat against Ukraine for more flexibility on the part of U.S. and the West. This is not the case because we have no intention to invade Ukraine. And thus, there is nothing to trade with."

Jan. 17: The Associated Press reported that Russia's top diplomat became angry when rejecting allegations of a looming invasion, accusing the United States of "total disinformation."

Jan. 24: At a daily briefing in Moscow, the spokesman for President Putin said: "In general, we state and would like to draw your attention to the fact that the escalation of tension is carried out through information actions and concrete actions taken by the United States of America and NATO. Speaking about information actions, I mean the information hysteria that we are witnessing. It is generously framed by a huge amount of false information,

President of France Emmanuel Macron told the papers late last week that there was "duplicity" on Vladimir Putin's part when they talked on the phone several times before the invasion. "Yes, there was duplicity," he said. "Yes, there was a deliberate, conscious choice to launch war when we could still negotiate peace."

Do you think? The rest of the world needs to keep this in mind when dealing with these folks again.

Breaking News: Friday morning, Russia put out word that it was "open to negotiations" and may agree to talks in regard to Ukraine.

Does anybody believe that?

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AGENDA REQUEST FORM

FOR: Council Meeting of March 1, 2022

FROM: Council Members Teresa Turk and Holly Hertzberg

ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION TITLE AND SUBJECT:

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE SUPPORT OF THE FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE UKRAINIAN MILITARY AND THE UKRAINIAN CITIZENS' BRAVE DEFENSE OF THEIR COUNTRY AGAINST THE UNPROVOKED, ILLEGAL, AND BRUTAL RUSSIAN INVASION

APPROVED FOR AGENDA:

Approved by email

City Council Member
Teresa Turk

2-28-22

Date

Approved by email

City Council Member
Holly Hertzberg

2-28-22

Date



City Attorney Kit Williams
Approved as to form

February 28, 2022

Date

Williams, Kit

From: Hertzberg, Holly
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 5:16 PM
To: Williams, Kit
Cc: Turk, Teresa; Batker, Jodi
Subject: Re: Resolution to support Ukraine

Kit,

This looks great, thank you!

Holly

On Feb 28, 2022 at 5:00 PM, <Kit Williams> wrote:

Teresa and Holly,

I changed "Ukraine" to "Ukrainian" in a couple of places after I confirmed this was the correct terminology.
Kit

From: Williams, Kit
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 4:02 PM
To: Turk, Teresa <teresa.turk@fayetteville-ar.gov>; Hertzberg, Holly <holly.hertzberg@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Cc: Batker, Jodi <jbatker@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: RE: Resolution to support Ukraine

Teresa and Holly,

Both of you emailed me yesterday and asked me to draft a Resolution to support Ukraine for the March 1st meeting. Attached is my proposed draft Resolution for your consideration. If this is what you wanted, please approve it. If changes need to be made, please let me know, and I will change it.

Also attached is the Agenda request form. You may approve this by simply saying so in an email back to me. The we will put it into Legistar.

Kit

From: Turk, Teresa
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2022 9:25 AM
To: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>
Subject: Re: Resolution to support Ukraine

Hi Kit,

Please let me know if you don't have time and I could try to draft some points.

Thanks for all you do for our city,
Teresa

From: Turk, Teresa
Sent: Sunday, February 27, 2022 9:21 AM

Williams, Kit

From: Turk, Teresa
Sent: Monday, February 28, 2022 9:37 PM
To: Williams, Kit
Cc: Hertzberg, Holly; Batker, Jodi
Subject: Re: Resolution to support Ukraine
Attachments: scan.pdf

Thank you Kit! I will sign and scan the agenda request form.

Teresa

Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 28, 2022, at 5:00 PM, Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov> wrote:

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Thanks for all you do for our city,
Teresa

To: Williams, Kit <kwilliams@fayetteville-ar.gov>

Subject: Resolution to support Ukraine

Hi Kit,

I had a constituent who reached out to me requesting that the city of Fayetteville pass a resolution supporting the people of Ukraine and to encourage businesses to light their establishments with yellow and blue lights in a show of solidarity.

Little Rock has shown their solidarity with the Ukrainian citizens by changing the color of the bridge across the Arkansas River and I think Fayetteville should follow suit. Too bad we don't have such a prominent feature as a bridge.

Please give me a call if we need to discuss and I hope we can walk this item on for Tuesday's council meeting.

Thanks so much!

Teresa Turk

City Council Member

Ward 4 Position 1

Fayetteville, AR 72701

ward4_pos1@fayetteville-ar.gov

206.713.2265

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION TO EXPRESS THE SUPPORT OF THE FAYETTEVILLE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE UKRAINIAN MILITARY AND THE UKRAINIAN CITIZENS' BRAVE DEFENSE OF THEIR COUNTRY AGAINST THE UNPROVOKED, ILLEGAL, AND BRUTAL RUSSIAN INVASION

WHEREAS, Vladimir Putin and his spokesmen since at least November 12, 2021 have consistently and continuously lied about and denied their planned invasion of Ukraine; and

WHEREAS, as late as February 16, 2022, Russia's media reported that "Russia's Defense Ministry said Tuesday that some troops deployed from military districts bordering Ukraine were being loaded onto trains and trucks and sent back to their garrison, marking Russia's latest step away from the threat of an invasion" (Northwest Arkansas Democrat Gazette 2-28-22 Editorial); and

WHEREAS, immediately before this illegal invasion began, Putin during a personal phone call with French President Macron again lied that no invasion was planned; and

WHEREAS, this lie could not hide the truth that Russia began an unprovoked and illegal invasion of Ukraine on several fronts shortly thereafter; and

WHEREAS, Ukrainian troops joined by thousands of Ukrainian civilian volunteers have bravely rallied to the defense of their homeland, its democratic government and their own liberty to fight the Russian invaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAYETTEVILLE, ARKANSAS:

Section 1: That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby expresses its admiration and full support for the Ukrainian military's courage and resolve and the Ukrainian patriots' brave and heroic resistance against Russia's unprovoked, illegal, inhumane and intolerable invasion of the sovereign nation and the peace-loving citizens of Ukraine.

Section 2: That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby calls upon all Fayetteville citizens and businesses to visibly and loudly support and honor Ukraine's continuing heroic resistance against the war criminal, Vladimir Putin, and his crony Kremlin supporters.

Section 3: That the City Council of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas hereby supports the peace-loving Russian people and request that they continue and increase their public opposition to this unprovoked, illegal, unjust and needless war against their neighbors as well as their opposition to this corrupt tyrant who has even made veiled threats of nuclear war.

PASSED and APPROVED this 1st day of March, 2022.