

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** KAREN MILLER <kamiller49@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 12, 2024 9:36 AM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Comment

Karen Miller, Kingston NY

I support the proposed memorializing resolution calling for a permanent cease-fire in Gaza.

Killing of innocent citizens in Gaza isn't self defense.

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**From:** Kim Baglieri <[kim.baglieri@gmail.com](mailto:kim.baglieri@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:09 PM

**To:** Andrews, Drew <[Ward7@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:Ward7@kingston-ny.gov)>; Tinti, Egidio <[etinti@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:etinti@kingston-ny.gov)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] I call for a permanent ceasefire resolution

Hello there,

I encourage our aldermen and councilmen to support a permanent ceasefire resolution. I encourage you to divest from senseless militarism and instead to reinvest in our community. The money that is right now funding Israel's weapons to murder Palestinian people could be instead going to social safety nets for Kingston residents such as mental/physical health care services, after school programs, accessible child care and affordable housing.

The loss of Palestinian children's lives by a large and well funded military is unprecedented, and indeed funded by the US, the most powerful nation in the world. This is unconscionable. This is the deadliest conflict for children then all other conflicts combined. 40% of all deaths in Gaza are children. Children have lost their lives, their parents and family members, their limbs, their eyes, their homes, their communities. They are now starving to death and freezing to death and yet Israel still does not stop bombing and shooting at them.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/11/7/is-israels-gaza-war-the-deadliest-conflict-for-children-in-modern-times>

I believe you, as elected officials, can choose today, to take a step in the right direction. Just because you haven't yet, you can choose today to atone for your apathy and decide to move in the direction of love and into the flow of radical love that moves our Universe forward. You are powerful and can use your voice to speak up for the children who cannot speak here for themselves.

Thank you for your time,  
Kim Baglieri  
Kingston resident

--

Kim Baglieri (she/her/they/theirs)

Artist at [kimbaglieri.com](http://kimbaglieri.com)

Artist Instructor

Studio in a School

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Tinti, Egidio  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:34 AM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Calling on your support

You again!

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**From:** Katy Kondrat <katyannarose@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:28 AM  
**To:** Tinti, Egidio <etinti@kingston-ny.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Calling on your support

I hope you're well.

I'm writing again to urge you to vote YES on the resolution that's coming before the common council in support of an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

I would love to hear where you stand on this very important issue. I thought a lot about the people of Gaza yesterday, as it was MLK Day. His message has been watered down over the years - if he was with us today, I know he would be calling for this ceasefire alongside us because injustice anywhere is injustice everywhere.

It can feel hard to link our day to day lives here in Kingston, NY to the suffering of the people in Gaza. We are so far away, and so privileged to be safe and free from daily attacks and loss of loved ones. But as you know, that privilege holds us responsible for speaking up when atrocities like this happen.

I can imagine the pressure you are getting on both sides - and possibly one side more than another. I urge you to look inward and imagine the pain and loss the people of Gaza are experiencing, and make your decision from that place.

Thank you.  
Best wishes,  
Katy  
Katy Kondrat

{pronouns: [she/her/hers](#)}

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**From:** Grace Crummett <[grace.crummett@gmail.com](mailto:grace.crummett@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:12 AM  
**To:** Tinti, Egidio <[etinti@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:etinti@kingston-ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] SUPPORT THE CEASEFIRE RESOLUTION

I wrote this to my Alderman, Mr. Michael Tierney, and I am sending this to you as well to add to your records:

Dear Michael Tierney,

**I am writing to urge you to support the Ceasefire Resolution.** The situation in Gaza is dire, and we cannot stand by and watch atrocities like this one happen again and again. Every time it's over, we say "never again." Here it is happening again.

As a resident of Ward 2 in Kingston, I urge you to support the Ceasefire Resolution. Be on the right side of history.

Sincerely,

Grace Crummett

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**From:** Avery Wells <[avery.ceramics@gmail.com](mailto:avery.ceramics@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:24 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Egidio <[etinti@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:etinti@kingston-ny.gov)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Memorializing Resolution- Permanent Ceasefire

Forwarding this so my comments will be a part of the record and seen by all committee members. Thank you for your time!

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Avery Wells <[avery.ceramics@gmail.com](mailto:avery.ceramics@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 12:22 PM  
**Subject:** Memorializing Resolution- Permanent Ceasefire  
**To:** <[ward1@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward1@kingston-ny.gov)>

Good morning Alderman Pasti,

I'm writing as a concerned resident of your ward. I believe that it is essential that the Kingston Common Council's Memorializing Resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza is passed.

Kingston - and the rest of the Hudson Valley, and the rest of the United States - is currently undergoing multiple crises: a lack of affordable housing and food are among the most glaring. We need to divest from war and instead reinvest in our community. Our money should not go towards bombing children, but instead towards uplifting our own residents. War affects the working class the most, and as an alderman of a working-class ward, we beg you to listen to our voices and be an honest representative of your constituents.

We are just one city, but any action we take towards a permanent ceasefire can influence elected officials at state and national levels. Please help Kingston be the best community we can be, to ourselves and to the world. Please support the resolution calling for an unconditional and permanent ceasefire in Gaza.

Thank you for your time,  
Avery Wells  
Resident of Ward 1 in Kingston

--  
Avery Wells (she/her)  
Resident Artist at [Clay Art Center](#)  
336-978-0610  
[averyceramics.squarespace.com](http://averyceramics.squarespace.com)

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Erika <bernabei.erika@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:28 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire in Gaza Resolution

To the members of the City of Kingston Common Council,

Today I ask that the Kingston Common Council sit inside of the lessons of history and call for the cease-fire in Gaza, along with many other cities across the country, including our neighbors in Albany, San Francisco, Atlanta, Detroit amongst many others. We believe that Kingston can model the ethics of humanity, love and justice and be on the right side of history by calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza, a stop to the violence that has killed more than 30,000 civilians.

We must not let our fear dictate our actions, we must stand as a community for what is right.

Erika Middleton  
169 Hunter Street  
Kingston, NY 12401

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Jen Asturias <jeasturi@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:31 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Andrews, Drew; Pasti, Sara; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Mickens, Terly; Dennison, Bob; Hirsch, Michele  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Asking for Support for the Ceasefire Resolution

Dear Alderpeople of the Rules and Laws Committee,

My name is Jen Asturias and I am a Kingston resident in ward 7, living just a few blocks away from Kingston City Hall. As somebody who has been aware of the humanitarian crisis occurring in Gaza for years, I am writing to urge you to support the memorializing ceasefire resolution.

First, I wanted to share some context on what has been happening in Gaza *prior* to October 7th of 2023. You can see a summary of the occupation at this link here: <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/18/mapping-israeli-occupation-gaza-palestine> which I encourage all alderpersons to review.

Gaza is a Palestinian territory that has been subjected to Israel military occupation and a shrinking in size and borders for decades. In 2007, the Gaza Strip was closed by Israel securing the borders all around Gaza, including the Egyptian border. According to a 2021 Human Rights Watch article, the closure of this border denied the travel of both people and essential supplies (such as food, fuel, medical supplies) into and out of the area. Despite the large humanitarian presence throughout Israel, Palestine, and surrounding areas for over 70 years, the current state of Gaza is considered an “unprecedented humanitarian crisis” as the tactics of control have increased despite the decrease in armed fighting prior to October 7th. The UN and numerous humanitarian organizations have described at length the starvation tactics of Israel, and the destruction of medical facilities, ambulances, homes and schools. Let me emphasize that these are all **civilian** spaces, and the attacks and destruction have been extensively documented over the course of 2014-2017. Because the borders have been closed by the Israel military (land, air and sea blockades), Gaza has had trouble accessing the basic and essential resources for survival. These tactics have been deemed crimes against humanity, as the government of Israel intentionally blocks the very basic essentials of life to Gazans.

This level of control and violence has been happening for the past decade, and this is only a slice of the context that Gaza has been experiencing -all before October 7th.

*“On 9 October Israel imposed a complete siege of Gaza, resulting in acute shortages of water, food and medicines that threatened the survival of 2.3 million Palestinians and created a dire humanitarian crisis. On 11 October Israel cut off the electricity supply to Gaza, resulting in an ongoing blackout contributing to the collapse of hospitals and water and sanitation services. Israel has issued multiple evacuation orders for northern Gaza, including to hospitals providing care, and Israeli forces have effectively severed areas north of Wadi Gaza from the south since the start of their ground invasion. Over 1.1 million people lived in northern Gaza before the start of hostilities, and at least 1.8 million are currently internally displaced. Palestinians remain trapped in Gaza as Israeli authorities closed the Erez and Kerem Shalom Crossings while transit through the Rafah Crossing from Egypt remains heavily restricted.”*

(30 November 2023 <https://www.globalr2p.org/countries/israel-and-the-occupied-palestinian-territory/>)

Today, the number of deaths in Gaza have surpassed the population of Kingston -can you imagine losing our entire city to bombings? Around 10,000 Palestinian **children** have been killed in what is being called a war on the terrorist group Hamas -yet hospitals, journalists and children are being bombed by the thousands.

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Allison McIntyre <allycatyou15@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:49 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Upcoming vote on ceasefire resolution

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Allison McIntyre <[allycatyou15@gmail.com](mailto:allycatyou15@gmail.com)>  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 12:46 PM  
**Subject:** Upcoming vote on ceasefire resolution  
**To:**  
**Cc:** <[ward9@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward9@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward1@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward1@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward5@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward5@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward3@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward3@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward6@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward6@kingston-ny.gov)>

Hello,

I am a Kingston resident expressing my overwhelming support for a ceasefire resolution. Everyone should vote YES to pass the resolution and to show support for the people of Palestine. Israel is relentlessly murdering Palestinians in order to steal and loot land. You will be on the right side of history by passing this resolution. The people of Palestine need us.

Anon voter in ward 1

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** schwartzho@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:53 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] To Common Council Clerk for Law and Rules Public Comment

To the Law and Rules Committee :

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed " Resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza". The resolution contains many inaccuracies and is offensive to me personally. While I hope and pray that a peaceful and quick end to the hostilities in Gaza can be found, it takes 2 parties to make that happen. The resolution has an antisemitic and anti Israel bias. It is not balanced. It also is politicized. Where are the resolutions in support of the Uigyers who are being persecuted in China, or support for Ukraine? I urge you to not vote on this divisive issue.

Respectfully,

Lyle Schwartz

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Jill horn <jillhornhvs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 12:55 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] To Common Council Clerk for Law and Rules Public Comment

To the Law and Rules Committee :

I am writing to express my concern about the proposed " Resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza". The resolution contains many inaccuracies and is offensive to me personally. While I hope and pray that a peaceful and quick end to the hostilities in Gaza can be found, it takes 2 parties to make that happen. The resolution has an antisemitic and anti Israel bias. It is not balanced. It also is politicized. Where are the resolutions in support of the Uigyers who are being persecuted in China, or support for Ukraine? I urge you to not vote on this divisive issue.

Respectfully,

Jill Horn

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** callie mackenzie <mxcalliemackenzie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:05 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Fwd: Ceasefire Resolution

callie mackenzie  
she/they ([what does this mean?](#))  
203-803-7414  
[calliemackenzie.com](mailto:calliemackenzie.com)

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** callie mackenzie <mxcalliemackenzie@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, Jan 16, 2024 at 10:17 AM  
**Subject:** Ceasefire Resolution  
**To:** <[ward1@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward1@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward3@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward3@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward5@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward5@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward6@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward6@kingston-ny.gov)>, <[ward9@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward9@kingston-ny.gov)>  
**CC:** Andrews, Drew <[ward7@kingston-ny.gov](mailto:ward7@kingston-ny.gov)>

**To:** Members of Laws & Rules Committee:  
Michele Hirsch  
Sara Pasti  
Teryl Mickens  
Reynolds Scott-Childress  
Robert Dennison

**CC:** Ward 7 Alderman, Drew Andrews

Good Morning,

I am reaching out to you as a Kingston Homeowner and Business owner to support the resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza. The Laws & Rules Committee has an opportunity to bring this important resolution to a full vote, and I highly encourage you to pass this.

Resolutions are power tools to influence state and federal elected officials, and the members of this common council have taken stances on important issues in the past many times without having to be asked, many times reaching out to myself or other community organizers to ask for support when they work to pass these resolutions. I say this to preempt any member of the council saying that this issue is outside of their responsibility.

The violence did not start on October 7, but since that day, Israel's indiscriminate bombing and ground attacks have brought the death toll to over 24,000. To be clear, the Death Toll is equivalent to the population of Kingston.

The majority of people support a ceasefire. At the national level the majority of Americans support a ceasefire, and [The Nation Reports that](#) many voters will make decisions around elections based on this issue. Locally, we have seen a tremendous amount of support for a ceasefire, and those who oppose it have openly spewed violent racist rhetoric to support their beliefs.

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Patrick Pellicano <patrick.pellicano@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:25 PM  
**To:** Scott-Childress, Reynolds  
**Cc:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Support for Palestine Ceasefire Resolution

Dear Alderman Scott-Childress,

My name is Pat Pellicano and I live at 126 Pearl Street. As a resident of Ward 3, I am writing to urge your support for the Ceasefire Resolution in Palestine that was debated at a recent council meeting and is up for consideration at the Laws & Rules Committee.

As mentioned during that session, Kingston has supported symbolic actions and resolutions on international matters in the past, most recently considering partnering with a sister city in Ukraine in light of that country's war of resistance with Russia. Your constituents are in mourning as their taxes are being used to kill scores of people, upwards of 25,000 Palestinian civilians in 100 days by recent estimates. As New York's first capitol, it would send a message that Kingston stands with the majority of the planet based on a recent United Nations vote, and that we support expanding humanitarian aid, stopping the warfare, and calls to end the Israeli occupation and apartheid system that South Africa recently condemned at the International Court of Justice.

Supporting this non-binding resolution will show those community members who have torturously watched 100 days of war play out on their phones that our elected leadership cares. Thank you.

Pat Pellicano

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Kim Baglieri <kim.baglieri@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:28 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa; Andrews, Drew  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please support a ceasefire resolution

Hello there,

I encourage our aldermen and councilmen to support a permanent ceasefire resolution. I encourage you to divest from senseless US military aid to Isreal and instead to reinvest in our community. The money that is right now funding Israel's weapons to murder Palestinian children could be instead going to social safety nets for Kingston residents such as mental/physical health care services, after school programs, accessible child care and affordable housing.

The loss of Palestinian children's lives by a large and well-funded military is unprecedented, and indeed these weapons are funded by the US, one of the most powerful nations in the world. This is unconscionable. This is the most deadly conflict for children in history, again with bombs funded by the United States . 40% of all deaths in Gaza are children. Children have lost their lives, their parents and family members, their limbs, their eyes, their homes, their communities. They are starving to death and freezing to death and yet Israel still does not stop bombing and shooting at them. Babies were not born to be immediately murdered.

I believe you, as elected officials, can choose today, to take a step in the right direction. Just because you haven't yet, you can choose today to atone for your apathy and decide to move in the direction of love and life, into the flow of radical love that moves our Universe forward. You are powerful and can use your voice to speak up for the children who cannot speak here for themselves.

Thank you for your time,  
Kim Baglieri  
Kingston resident

--  
Kim Baglieri (she/her/they/theirs)  
Artist at [kimbaglieri.com](http://kimbaglieri.com)  
Artist Instructor  
Studio in a School

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Zera Bloom <zerabloom@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:29 PM  
**To:** Pasti, Sara  
**Cc:** Tinti, Elisa; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Mickens, Terly; Dennison, Bob; Hirsch, Michele  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Permanent Ceasefire Resolution

Hi Sara & Members of the Laws & Rules Committee,

First of all I wanted to thank you for making a sincere and concerted effort this past month, as many in the community have, to gain a deeper understanding of what is happening in Palestine/Israel and how our community, both national and local, is implicated and impacted.

I wanted to share a few thoughts and resources ahead of tomorrow's committee meeting that may inspire support for a Permanent Ceasefire memorializing resolution.

1. Please listen to South Africa's testimony from Thursday before the ICJ. It provides a concise account of the deep and horrifying injustice experienced by Palestinians in this moment.
2. Please consider why it is that none of the major US news networks covered South Africa's testimony, while all of them covered Israel's Friday rebuttal.
3. Consider how these facts, these discrepancies, these terrible power imbalances, enact violence upon our own community, especially upon Arab-Americans and Jews, and particularly on those within each community who demand a reversal of the genocidal status quo.

We have a great opportunity with this resolution to bring some degree of healing to our community, and to take an important step toward demanding our tax dollars are used to foster life and justice rather than death and war.

Sincerely,

Zera Bloom

**Zera Bloom** (she/they)  
composer, performer, educator, producer  
[www.zera-bloom.com](http://www.zera-bloom.com)

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** isabella <bellaharrell@hvc.rr.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:42 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Mickens, Terly  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Urgent Appeal: Ceasefire Resolution and Accountability

Dear City of Kingston Common Council,

I write to you as a concerned resident of Kingston, emphasizing the critical need for the Common Council to pass the ceasefire resolution today.

Over the past hundred days, the rather significant death toll of Palestinian people has managed to mirror the entire population of our City of Kingston, which is quite the alarming statistic. To put it into a different perspective, if the same proportion of Americans were affected as Palestinian people, it would result in the loss of 3 million lives, with 1.2 million being innocent children. This alarming reality emphasizes the urgency of our city taking a stand for peace.

Regrettably, our tax dollars, diligently collected for the collective welfare of our community, have inadvertently sponsored this heinous genocide, amounting to \$350,000. It is imperative that we acknowledge this unintended involvement and take proactive measures to rectify our contribution.

Notably, 66-68% of Americans support a ceasefire, reflecting a widespread call for peace. Unfortunately, our state and federal government seem to be blatantly ignoring our wishes for a ceasefire and continue to actively participate in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian civilians on their own lands. Perhaps they're preoccupied with matters beyond our comprehension. As we sit here considering these interesting nuances, Kingston has an opportunity to lead by example, demonstrating our commitment to the well-being of our community and advocating for the livelihood and safety of innocent men, women, and children of Palestine.

I urge you to consider the gravity of these realities as you deliberate on the ceasefire resolution. By passing this resolution, Kingston can assert its stance against violence and our ability to act independently of the more indifferent echelons of government.

Thank you for your time and consideration. May your decisions reflect the desires of those within our community.

Sincerely,

Isabella Harrell  
73 Garden St  
Kingston, New York, 12401

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Isabella Harrell <harrell.pc23@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:49 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Mickens, Terly  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Urgent Appeal: Ceasefire Resolution and Accountability

Dear City of Kingston Common Council,

I write to you as a concerned resident of Kingston, emphasizing the critical need for the Common Council to pass the ceasefire resolution today.

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Thank you for your time and consideration. May your decisions reflect the desires of those within our community.

Sincerely,

Isabella Harrell  
73 Garden Street  
Kingston, New York, 12401

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Samuel Goldberg <samuel.m.goldberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 1:50 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please pass the Ceasefire resolution

Hello,

I am Jewish and live in the neighborhood surrounding Forsyth Park.

As a Jew I beg you to pass the memorializing resolution for a permanent Ceasefire in Gaza.

Nothing can justify the genocidal violence that the civilian population of Gaza is being subjected to. The actions of the Israel's openly racist government place Jews across the world in incalculable danger.

Despite insistence to the contrary the Israeli state and the Zionist political project do not speak for or represent the interests of Jews.

Please support the Ceasefire resolution.

Sincerely,  
Sam Goldberg

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Khadija K <khadija@hey.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:01 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please Support Ceasefire Resolution

Dear Council Members,

I am writing **IN SUPPORT** of the Kingston Ceasefire Resolution. The death toll over the last hundred days is equivalent to the population of the City of Kingston. If the same proportion of Americans were killed, it would be 3 million people – 1.2 million of which would be children.

Kingston residents' tax dollars, which are supposed to fund our collective responsibility to care for each other, have funded this genocide in the amount of \$350,000. 66-68% of Americans support a ceasefire, but our state and federal government won't listen to us.

Please, choose to be on the right side of history. Let us join San Francisco CA, Oakland CA, Richmond CA, Cudahy CA, Bridgeport CT, Wilmington DE, Atlanta GA, Portland ME, Detroit MI, Dearborn MI, Dearborn Heights MI, Hamtrack MI, Ypsilanti MI, Albany NY, Akron Ohio, Providence, RI in calling for a CEASEFIRE NOW.

Thank you,  
khadija

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Tinti, Egidio  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:27 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** Fw: [EXTERNAL EMAIL] As a Kingston resident I support a Ceasefire Resolution

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**From:** Yeah Dawg <yeahdawgvegan@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 2:59 PM  
**To:** Andrews, Drew <Ward7@kingston-ny.gov>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] As a Kingston resident I support a Ceasefire Resolution

Hello

I am writing as a current resident and business owner of Ward 7 in Kingston NY. As a contributing citizen of Kingston I am asking for a permanent ceasefire resolution regarding Palestine. There are over 20,000 innocent people dead already and 40% are children. The money that's going to weapons and killing of innocent civilians can be better used in our communities for housing and education.

Thank you for listening,  
Marino Benedetto

### **Yeah Dawg**

Plant-based, Vegan, Soy-free, Gluten-free Hot Dogs

[www.yeahdawgvegan.com](http://www.yeahdawgvegan.com)

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<https://www.instagram.com/yeahdawgvegan>

#### **TWITTER:**

<https://twitter.com/YeahDawgVegan>

#### **FACEBOOK:**

<https://www.facebook.com/YEAHDAWGVEGAN>

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Norman Lowrey <nlowrey@drew.edu>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 3:30 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa; Hirsch, Michele; Pasti, Sara; Mickens, Terly; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Dennison, Bob  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire

To Whom It May Concern,

As a resident of Kingston, NY living in Ward 1, I am writing to reiterate and confirm my support of the resolution before the Kingston Common Council for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. I have done research into both the history of the region and kept informed about the details of the present horrific war, and can recommend particularly the history by Rashid Khalidi, "The Hundred Years' War on Palestine" and the web site of Jewish Voice for Peace (<https://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/>) for up-to-date information.

Sincerely,  
Norman Lowrey

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Mandy Beckley <beckley.amanda@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:25 PM  
**To:** Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Deeply and urgently support a Palestine Ceasefire Resolution - HANDS OFF GAZA!

To Alderman Scott-Childress,

I am writing to inform you of my enthusiastic and urgent support for passing a Palestine Ceasefire Resolution in our small city. My name is Mandy Beckley and I am lucky to be a new member of the Kingston community on the ancestral lands of the Lenape people, right next to the beautiful *Muhheakantuck*, the river that flows both ways. My address is 126 Pearl street, so that makes you my city rep.

While I understand this act will not stop the bombs being dropped indiscriminately onto thousands of Gazan children, men, women, elders, babies, disabled people, pets, gardens, cafes, schools, hospitals, etc - we must act in common with those who are suffering on this unacceptable and horrifying scale. We must do the most basic of things, like urging vocal and public support for the people of Gaza. And we must do more. We must insist that our governments cease sending our tax dollars to Israel in the form of bombs, drones, guns. To end this unhinged revenge. To reject the idea of occupation. There are a thousand things we should be doing to END this literal genocide of people and place happening before our eyes.

There are those who would have us think that decrying this violence is an act of ignorance, that we are ignoring that this is defense or that this is antisemitism. This position is riddled with offense. It disregards the actual murder of thousands of people in order to justify itself. How callous! I have learned all that I know about the decades long suffering and apartheid of the Palestinian people from many beloved Jewish friends over the years. My Jewish community brought me into the understanding of the occupation of Gaza Strip by Israel. I owe the compassion and solidarity I now feel to my Jewish kin. To have some in the Jewish community claim it is anti-semitic to voice support for Palestinian freedom or to say it's justified violence or inevitable makes no sense. Where in history would we say without embarrassment or reservation that 22,000 people DESERVE this violence? Do people even hear themselves when they speak?

No one is safe when the governments operate a decades-long occupation, like a prison, when people are forced into small tight unlivable places and are separated from their loved ones. It sounds like a concentration camp, doesn't it? Weren't we all being serious when we said "Never again"? Many of us have not understood or read or learned the histories of the world.

The least we can do is say, this is wrong, this is murder, you are choosing to do this. Ceasefire now. Ceasefire permanently. Free Palestine

Thank you,  
Mandy Beckley

**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Chrissy O'Grady <chrissylogrady@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 4:30 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa; Shaut, Andrea  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Public Comment - Common Council Clerk for Law and Rules

Hello,

As a resident of Kingston, I urge you to vote in favor of the ceasefire resolution before the Kingston City Council Laws and Rules Committee.

Thank you,  
Chrissy O'Grady

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Molly Markow <memarkow@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 5:01 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire Resolution - Comments

As a resident of the city of Kingston I am writing to express my unwavering support for the Ceasefire Resolution. I am appalled that my tax dollars continue to support the genocide that is unfolding in Palestine before our eyes. I am heartbroken over the loss. of life on both sides, and I believe it is our responsibility to act urgently and immediately.

After reading through the public comments I would like to highlight several things:

-Calling for a ceasefire does **not** negate accountability for the attack on October 7. It's simply the humanitarian, legal, moral, and most strategic avenue of action to allow the possibility of securing a real lasting political solution for all.

-I am concerned for the safety and well-being of ALL people in Israel/Palestine and refuse to accept that Israeli safety and well-being must come at the price of more Palestinian lives.

-A ceasefire and the restoration of basic necessities along with humanitarian aid would enable the development of political solutions, including for the release and safe return of all hostages, rather than perpetuate violence through a military option.

You have an opportunity to take a stand on the right side of history and help influence our Members of Congress to do what is decent, moral, and desperately needed in this critical and urgent moment.

-Molly Markow

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Carolyn Ferrucci <carolyn.ferrucci@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:28 PM  
**To:** Shaut, Andrea; Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire resolution

Dear Council President Shaut and Clerk Tinti,

I am a 33 year old teacher in support of a permanent ceasefire. There is strong support for a ceasefire, coming from the Jewish community. Calling for an end to the slaughter of Palestinians is not anti-Semitic, in fact I am following the lead of so many of my Jewish friends, my partner, their families, who do not want this war in their name, and are out on the streets calling for a ceasefire.

Over 10,000 children have been killed. This is unprecedented, and obviously has nothing to do with self defense. If people really want to assume that the over 13,000 adults killed are all Hamas terrorists (which of course they are not) what can you possibly say about the children? The total death toll is the equivalent to the population of Kingston.

When can we begin to see Palestinian life as valuable?

Do not turn away from what people in your constituency are calling for. Please do not support funding for this war. Invest in our communities instead.

Please support a permanent ceasefire resolution.

Thank you

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Karli Kopp <karlikopp@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:32 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Edwards, Jeanne  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Kingston Ceasefire Resolution

Dear Elisa Tinti and the Kingston City Council,

My name is Karli Kopp, I live at 62 downs street in Kingston. I am emailing to voice my emphatic support for the memorializing ceasefire resolution proposed by the Kingston common council.

I know the siege of Gaza seems like a distant international conflict that Kingston has no jurisdiction over, but this resolution is a part of a nation-wide campaign to protest the indiscriminate allocation of tax-payer funds to providing further weapons and securities to the Israeli foreign military which has already received billions in weapons funding from America.

Other cities have passed similar resolutions including Albany, San Francisco, and St. Louis.

Every penny of our tax money that goes to foreign military aid is a penny taken away from our schools, our roads, our library, and or economic stability as a small municipality.

I firmly believe the Palestinian civilians and children are not necessary collateral for the safety and protection of Israel.

Thank you for taking the time to read through these comments.

Sincerely,  
Karli Kopp

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** A. Katzman <adamthekatzman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 7:45 PM  
**To:** Schabot, Steven; Shaut, Andrea; Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire Resolution: Public Comment

Dear Mr. Schabot, and Common Council at large,

I am a Jewish constituent and business owner in Kingston, and I'm emailing you to voice my strong *support* for the Ceasefire Resolution that has been proposed by members of our community.

For 3+ months I have watched on my news and social media feeds as more than 24,000 Palestinians have been killed by the US funded Israeli army. The overwhelming majority of these deaths are women and children. It's obvious to myself, the majority of your constituents, and the majority of people across the globe, that what we are witnessing in Palestine is an act of collective punishment, and a genocide.

I'm writing to you today to ask that you wield whatever power you have to oppose these horrific war crimes. With the adoption of this resolution Kingston can join the growing list of US cities (such as Albany) calling for an immediate and permanent Ceasefire in Gaza, and an end to all Israeli military aid. The voices of these small towns and cities influence the actions of elected officials on the state and federal level. Your vote has a ripple effect, and it is not inconsequential.

Sincerely,

Adam Katzman

Adam Katzman (he/him)  
Autonomous Energies | Owner/Operator  
[www.AutonomousEnergies.com](http://www.AutonomousEnergies.com)  
(518) 567-1468

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Annie-Rose London <annie.rose.london@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:15 PM  
**To:** Shaut, Andrea; Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] In support of the Kingston Ceasefire Resolution

Dear Council President and Clerk,

I am emailing you as a proud Jewish resident of New York in urgent support of adopting the Kingston Ceasefire Resolution. While I don't live in Kingston, I grew up nearby in New Paltz and currently live an hour north in East Chatham, NY. I attended Hebrew School in Kingston as a child. I have a lot of longstanding Jewish community in Kingston and we are aligned in the urgent need for ceasefire in Israel and Palestine now. It would be a tremendously compassionate, important statement to adopt this resolution: for our Palestinian community members, for all of our Arab community members, and for our Jewish community members. I reject wholeheartedly any conflation between critique of Israel with antisemitism. You will be standing on the right side of history if you adopt this resolution.

Sincerely,  
Annie-Rose London  
100 Shore View Dr, East Chatham, NY 12060  
201-446-5931

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Margot Lourdel <margot.lourdel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:38 PM  
**To:** Edwards, Jeanne  
**Cc:** Pasti, Sara; Tierney, Michael; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Mickens, Terly; Dennison, Bob; Andrews, Drew; Schabot, Steven; Hirsch, Michele; Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] My support for the Kingston Ceasefire Resolution

Good evening Alderwoman Edwards,

I am a resident of Kingston and I am writing to express my support for the Kingston Ceasefire Resolution and urge you to vote for it.

As of today, 1% of the population of Gaza has been killed and dozens of thousands have been injured and lack critical medical care. Starvation has become common in the Gaza strip and nowhere is safe for civilians. Dozens of family lines have been wiped out of the registry by the Israeli bombings and 85% of the population has been displaced from their homes, many of which have simply been destroyed. The equivalent of the population of Kingston has been killed in just over 3 months.

I have attended events across the Hudson Valley in support of a ceasefire where I connected with many neighbors sharing the same concerns. I know many residents like me are deeply disturbed that almost \$350,000 of federal tax money collected from Kingston residents is used to fund Israel's military actions. The legality of Israel's actions under international law has been called into question by numerous legal scholars and international bodies such as the United Nations.

It is critical that we divest from military aid and redirect this funding to supporting the good development of our region - supporting public education, decent housing, affordable health and childcare, and meeting the challenges of climate change.

The proposed Resolution supports human rights and decency by supporting the return of all hostages (Israelis and Palestinian alike), supporting a diplomatic solution to the crisis, and denouncing the destruction of civilian infrastructure and of human life. I hope that you will support the passing of this Resolution.

Thank you for your attention,  
Margot Lourdel

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Miranda Lorberer <mirandalorberer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:43 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** Pasti, Sara; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Mickens, Terly; Dennison, Bob; Hirsch, Michele  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire resolution

My name is Miranda Lorberer. I am a long time resident of ward 3. Lifetime resident of Kingston. I am writing to implore you to support the ceasefire resolution. Which shows support for military divestment and community reinvestment.

We can all agree that Oct. 7th was a horrific act of violence and should never happen. However the response of ethnic cleansing and genocide are unfathomable and indefensible. We as taxpayers are helping pay for these atrocities and war crimes.

Our federal representatives have ignored us and continue to support the waste of public funds on weapons, and are supporting the horrors occurring daily by Israel upon the Palestinians.

As a lifetime city of kingston resident and current business owner, I hope that you can fully represent our humanity and vote for a ceasefire resolution.

Thank you,

Miranda Lorberer

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Patrick Boody <patrick.boody@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 8:59 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire resolution in Gaza

Ms. Tinti:

I urge you and the Kingston Common Council to pass a ceasefire resolution against Israeli war in Gaza.

The death toll over the last hundred days is equivalent to the population of the City of Kingston. If the same proportion of Americans were killed, it would be 3 million people – 1.2 million of which would be children. Kingston residents' tax dollars, which are supposed to fund our collective responsibility to care for each other, have funded this genocide in the amount of \$350,000.

Please take action now.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Boody

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Tracy Lerman <tracy.lerman@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:08 PM  
**To:** Hirsch, Michele; Pasti, Sara; Mickens, Terly; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Dennison, Bob  
**Cc:** Tinti, Elisa; Schabot, Steven; Shaut, Andrea  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please vote YES for the resolution in support of a ceasefire

Dear Members of the Kingston Common Council Laws and Rules Committee,

I am a Kingston city resident and a practicing and proud Jew. I am urging you to **vote YES for the resolution calling for a permanent ceasefire in Gaza** when it comes before you as a member of the Laws and Rules Committee.

Voting in support of this resolution is a simple act our city can take to stand on the side of justice. Israel's actions, and our government's support of them, are creating a humanitarian crisis of massive proportions. More than 24,000 Gazans have been killed (<1% of the total population of Gaza) and hundreds of thousands are living without access to shelter, food, medical care, power, and clean water. This genocide has been devastating to children; **[the death toll of children in Gaza \(more than half of the dead\) is orders of magnitude greater than all conflicts in the world combined](#)** and many of the ones still living are orphaned, trying to survive in a nightmarish warzone. No person with a conscience should be okay with this.

I want to be clear that my support of a permanent ceasefire in no way is a defense of Hamas and their horrific actions against Israeli civilians on October 7th. I have many family members in Israel and am constantly worried about their safety from terrorist attacks. But I want to be clear, as a person who has lived in Israel and understands the complex politics within the country, that **not only is [Israel failing in its military campaign to dismantle Hamas](#), its actions in Gaza are not making Israelis any safer**. Yes, countries have the right to defend themselves when attacked, **but it is also the responsibility of Western, democratic governments such as Israel's and ours to find a way to dismantle Hamas without causing massive civilian casualties**, instead of engaging in a campaign of brutal collective punishment. We need to stop this horrific cycle of violence and find another way. (For more on this, check out [Ezra Klein's podcast](#).)

I know that the Ulster County Jewish Federation believes this resolution is anti-Semitic and is calling on you to vote against it. I can't vehemently underscore how manipulative and wrong-headed that is. **Criticizing the actions of a nation is not anti-Semitic.** [Israelis themselves are divided over the war in Gaza](#). Conflating criticism of Israel and anti-Semitism creates a paradox where Israel is shielded from critique, which is a core tenet of fascism.

Lastly as a mom of a beautiful five year old, my heart is deeply grieving for all the parents, both Israeli and Palestinian, who are grieving the loss of their children. It ached for the parents of Israeli babies and toddlers killed in Hamas's massacre and for the Palestinian parents whose children have been murdered by Israel's bombing campaign. Every night when I put my daughter to bed and think about how happy and healthy she is, I get a nightmarish glimpse of her suffering the way children in Gaza are, and it terrifies me to think that people can do this to one another. You as elected officials of our city can add your voice to the growing movement calling for this massacre to end. I hope you will.

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Naomi Dann <naomi.dann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 9:45 PM  
**To:** Tierney, Michael  
**Cc:** Tinti, Elisa; Hirsch, Michele; Pasti, Sara; Mickens, Terly; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Dennison, Bob; Edwards, Jeanne; Andrews, Drew; Schabot, Steven; Shaut, Andrea  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Please support a ceasefire in Gaza

Dear Aldermember Tierney and colleagues,

As a Jewish resident of Ward 2, I write to urge you to support a resolution calling on our federal leaders to support an immediate, lasting ceasefire in Gaza.

As representatives of our community, your voice is needed in making it clear to our Congressional leaders and the White House that the American people are heartsick watching destruction of entire Palestinian families and neighborhoods. [Two-thirds of Americans](#), and the majority of your constituents including Jews like me, want to see an end to this war -- and a lasting peace where Palestinians and Israelis can live together with safety and freedom.

Every day that there is not a ceasefire is another day in which hundreds of Palestinians are killed. Nearly two million people have lost their homes. And dozens of Israeli hostages remain separated from their families. More war will not make anyone safer. The only way to bring people home safely is a negotiated solution that provides freedom and security to every person in the region.

The military aid and weapons that our tax dollars pay for are fueling Israel's destruction of Gaza and repression in the West Bank. We need our elected officials to raise your voices: we need public funding for health care and education -- not for bombs and occupation.

Naomi Dann  
Ward 2 resident

--  
Naomi Dann  
[naomi.dann@gmail.com](mailto:naomi.dann@gmail.com)  
503-952-6205

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** snakeintheboot@gmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:03 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Ceasefire

The City of Kingston has the responsibility to pass the ceasefire resolution.

The death toll over the last hundred days is equivalent to the population of the City of Kingston. If the same proportion of Americans were killed, it would be 3 million people – 1.2 million of which would be children.

Kingston residents' tax dollars, which are supposed to fund our collective responsibility to care for each other, have funded this genocide in the amount of \$350,000. 66-68% of Americans support a ceasefire, but our state and federal government won't listen to us.

Please be a good fellow human to our fellow humans who are suffering inordinately, inconceivably.

Thank you.

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Rachel Gans <rachelkgans@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:04 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa; Shaut, Andrea  
**Cc:** Hirsch, Michele; Pasti, Sara; Mickens, Terly; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Dennison, Bob  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] I support the resolution for Ceasefire in Palestine

My name is Rachel Gans. I've owned a home in Bloomington for 25 years. My children have gone through Kingston City Schools and I volunteer regularly in Kingston.

I am Jewish, the daughter and granddaughter of Holocaust survivors, and I have family in Israel and I, like so many other Jewish people in the Kingston community, desperately want a permanent ceasefire now. I want an end to the occupation and to see freedom for all the people of Palestine. All people have a right to live in peace with basic needs met.

I urge you to pass the Ceasefire resolution as proposed. As a Jew, I see nothing anti-semitic in the resolution.

The ongoing devastating attack on the people of Gaza is directly linked to the Kingston community. First, we have Palestinians here who have lost family members and friends and are in fear for others. The daily horrors we hear from Gaza are incredibly painful to so many of us, as we think of our friends and neighbors, and of the people we don't know, but know are so much like us. We know that so much of our tax money is going to fund this death and destruction. We need to invest in housing, health care, and other basic needs for all of us. Violence does not bring about peace. What is happening now is creating more instability for the future and will take generations to heal. We need to start the work of de-escalation, rebuilding, and healing now.

What we stand for here in the Kingston community has far-reaching reverberations, both within our city, and beyond, from the county, state, and country to our global community. We need to continuously look to build a world for our future generations and strive to end poverty, racism and militarism. End war now.

Thank you,  
Rachel Gans  
January 16, 2023

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**Tinti, Elisa**

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**From:** Teddy Artschwager <art9schw@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 10:17 PM  
**To:** Tierney, Michael  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] in support of Ceasefire resolution

To Alderman Tierney, and all Kingston Common Council members:

I write as a resident of Ward 2 and a deeply concerned constituent of the city of Kingston, for you to please vote in favor of the resolution supporting a permanent ceasefire in Gaza and return of all hostages.

I was happy to hear about the possibility of this resolution being adopted in Kingston after reading about the passing of a similar resolution in Albany and a number of cities across the country. These kinds of resolutions can seem like unimportant business to some, but represent a critical democratic function of our local municipal government. It demonstrates the values of our communities, but more importantly it sends a message to our state and federal representatives on behalf of thousands of people. A number of polls have shown that calling for a ceasefire and de-escalation of the conflict isn't just supported by a [strong majority of Democrats](#) and [Independents](#), it has a [plurality of Republican support](#) as well.

Without recounting the horrors of the last 100 days, I would just simply say that this is a vote against war, against further senseless death, and it is a vote for peace, for a diplomatic solution, and for our common humanity.

Sincerely,

Augustus Artschwager

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Starfish <starfishery@protonmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:24 PM  
**To:** Mickens, Terly  
**Cc:** Tinti, Elisa; Hirsch, Michele; Pasti, Sara; Scott-Childress, Reynolds; Dennison, Bob  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] ceasefire resolution

Dear Ms. Mickens,

I am a resident of Ward 5, and I am writing to urge you and the rest of the Rules and Laws committee to pass the resolution calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Palestine.

In the last three months, the state of Israel has visited unimaginable horrors on the people of Palestine. To date over 24,000 people have been killed— approximately the population of Kingston— and the death toll is rising every day. Various organizations have estimated that anywhere from 60-90% of the deaths have been civilians, and over 10,000 of the dead are children. Nearly 70% of homes in Gaza have been damaged or destroyed. Israel's attacks have targeted hospitals, shutting down 27 out of the 35 hospitals in the region by late November, and their blockade of foreign aid has prevented food, water, fuel, and medical supplies from reaching Palestinians who desperately need them.

We must call Israel's actions what they are: a genocide. While Hamas' killing of 1,200 Israelis on October 7 was indeed horrific, we must see Israel's murder of twenty times that number as all the more horrific. The excuse of self-defense cannot possibly justify killing on such an enormous scale, nor can it rationalize the targeting of infants and children, the destruction of schools and hospitals, or the mass starvation and forced displacement of an entire people. Collective punishment and forced displacement are both, as I'm sure you know, war crimes under international law.

Some people may wonder what place a city common council has in condemning the acts of a foreign government, but I believe there are three important reasons why Kingston should make its voice heard on this issue.

First, our tax money is going towards financial and military aid to Israel— money that could be invested in the betterment of our community instead of paying for the murder of Palestinian children.

Secondly, our representatives in the federal government, including President Biden and our own Congressman Pat Ryan, have refused to call for a ceasefire despite the fact that the majority of their constituents want one. Action at the local level can build momentum and help put pressure on those higher up in government to do the right thing and listen to the voices of those who they claim to represent.

Thirdly, we are human beings, witnessing unimaginable atrocities being committed against our fellow human beings, and such moments demand that we speak up and declare what we know to be right and wrong.

Please do not refrain from passing this resolution out of a belief that criticizing the state of Israel is inherently antisemitic. The significant Jewish presence at local demonstrations against this genocide, as well as the involvement of the organization Jewish Voice for Peace, all testify to the fact that Judaism and Zionism are not one and the same. This resolution is about condemning the actions of a violent and oppressive government, not the Jewish people themselves. We must stand against the murder of innocent Palestinians for exactly the same reason that we oppose antisemitism: because we recognize that oppression and brutality against any people is unacceptable. Never again means never again anywhere.

In the face of such horrifying crimes against humanity, there can be no excuse for silence. Please pass this resolution and tell our community, our country, and the world that we will not allow genocide to be committed on our dime or in our name.

Thank you,

## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Rita Eckstein <ritamarna@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:35 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Cc:** rita e  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Common Council Resolution for Ceasefire

Dear Laws and Rules Committee of the Kingston Common Council,

I am not a resident of the City of Kingston, but a concerned citizen in Ulster County and I urge you to table the Resolution for Ceasefire. I do not believe that a local government should take a stand on such a complex and polarizing issue. The language contained in this document is, in my opinion, unbalanced, very Anti-Israel and makes statements that are not borne out by the facts or the history, as I understand them. There is no place that is known as Occupied Palestine, the UN Resolution veto by the United States was not "undemocratic". The United States had every right to exercise their veto power. The Resolution mostly talks about the effects of the war in Gaza. There is no condemnation of the Mission of Hamas which is to destroy the State of Israel. There is no mention of the millions of dollars sent to Hamas by the world's nations for humanitarian aid to better the lives of their citizens that were instead used to build tunnels and purchase and develop weaponry to attack Israel. The Resolution does not condemn the Hamas attack in Israel and the wholesale slaughter of 1200 innocent babies, children, Israeli citizens and citizens of other countries, or the destruction of the communities on October 7th. It barely mentions the hostages taken by Hamas that day, who are being tortured and murdered by Hamas and different groups in Gaza, a fact that has been documented by hostages who were previously released.

Does the Common Council really want to sanction the end of military funding to Israel, the only democratic nation in the Middle East?

I do not always agree with the policies of the State of Israel and certainly do not want to see the loss of innocent lives, which is a tragedy. I remind you that Israel did not just march into Gaza to start a conflict, but this is a war declared by Israel in response to the brutal attack on innocent lives on October 7th.

I believe everyone wants to see an end to this conflict, but it needs to be one that will bring about meaningful change and peace for all. An immediate ceasefire where Hamas is allowed to continue operating with the destruction of Israel as their goal is not a solution.

I will again state that this Resolution should be tabled and local government should not involve itself. I believe, the language contained is the opinion of some, and that there are many who disagree with the wording and its bias; passage would be problematic for many people. Also, calling upon our Representatives and Senators in Congress to take action is inappropriate, as it would not represent the views of many in their districts or the State of New York.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to express our opinion.

Sincerely,

Arthur Eckstein

Rita Eckstein

355 Elmendorf Drive

Hurley, NY 12443

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## Tinti, Elisa

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**From:** Karen Levine <kl@DESIGNkingston.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 16, 2024 11:42 PM  
**To:** Tinti, Elisa  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL EMAIL] Request to REJECT Memorializing Resolution...Calling for a permanent cease-fire...

Dear honorable members of the Kingston Common Council:

I would like to add my voice to those urging that the council reject consideration of a memorializing resolution calling for a permanent cease-fire in Gaza. This document is both problematic in its assumptions and deeply divisive for our community.

I am writing both as a non-ordained Jewish spiritual leader (part of the clergy team at the Woodstock Jewish Congregation) and as a long-time citizen of the city of Kingston. I am also currently President of the Board of the Kingston Farmers Market and on the staff at the Reher Center for Immigrant Culture and History.

I have deep concerns about the intentions behind this resolution. There is no dispute about the misery, suffering, and horrors in Israel and Gaza. The question is how can we, in Kingston, NY, best approach this situation in a way that doesn't replicate the suffering and misery here?

Jews have been part of the fabric of Kingston society for generations, going back to the earliest Dutch settlers, who, themselves, were had suffered the expulsions of the Spanish and Portuguese inquisitions. Many of the Jews who live here now are descendants of late 19th and early 20th century immigrants who fled pogroms<sup>1</sup> in Eastern Europe, who settled in Kingston, built businesses, raised families, and contributed positively to the community in many ways.<sup>2</sup> As Jewish people nationwide are currently being targeted and threatened, local Jews are afraid that the violence we read about elsewhere will be replicated here. It is therefore especially important that Kingston leaders not feed the fires of persecution. All citizens in the city need to feel protected and safe with regard to our government officials.

These aren't easy times and the pressure to take sides, proclaim moral superiority, and attack opponents weighs heavy. But we are better than the thugs when we can live the complexity. If we are to truly be a just society we must treat one another with respect and compassion. It is not the mandate of Kingston city government to weigh in on international issues and federal foreign policy and, as I understand it, there is no precedent for doing so. I urge the council to lead from inclusiveness, with consideration of the cares and sensibilities of all who live here. Let's step up to these deeply complicated moral challenges together and not fall prey to those who seek to divide us.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in our democracy.

Karen Levine  
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Kingston