A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ATTACKS ON DUE PROCESS AND AFFIRMING THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLE IN MIDDLETOWN SPRINGS, VERMONT

WHEREAS, the United States Constitution guarantees due process, equal protection, and fundamental rights to all persons-regardless of citizenship, immigration status, race, religion, or political belief; and

WHEREAS, recent actions by federal authorities, including the detention of legal residents in Vermont without clear justification or timely access to legal counsel, represent a dangerous escalation of government overreach and a violation of these constitutional protections; and

WHEREAS, history has shown that when the rights of any group are violated, it opens the door for similar abuses to be carried out against others- first against immigrants, then against dissenters, and eventually against anyone who does not conform to the views of those in power; and

WHEREAS, the silence of public officials in the face of such abuses amounts to complicity, and failure to act now will only embolden those who seek to dismantle the rule of law and divide our communities through fear;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Selectboard of the Town of Middletown Springs unequivocally condemns all violations of due process and the weaponization of government power any individuals;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town of Middletown Springs affirms its unwavering commitment to protecting the constitutional rights of all people in our city, regardless of citizenship status, national origin, political belief, or any other identity;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Selectboard pledges to oppose any policy or action—local, state, or federal—that targets individuals based on who they are, where they come from, or what they believe, and to defend our Town as a community rooted in justice, accountability, and the equal dignity of all.

Adopted this 22nd day of May, 2025 by the Middletown Springs Selectboard

Herb Childress (e-signed on Sunday 5/18/2025)

Herb Childress, Chair

Isaac Yackel, Vice Chair

Terry Redfield, Clerk

Carl Haynes, Board Member

Sean Ruck, Board Member