



## Town of Pepperell Select Board

One Main Street - Town Hall  
Pepperell, Massachusetts 01463  
(978) 433-0334

Mark Mathews, Chair

Tony Beattie, Clerk  
Andrew MacLean, Town Administrator  
[amaclean@town.pepperell.ma.us](mailto:amaclean@town.pepperell.ma.us)

Chuck Walkovich, Member

August 1, 2022

To: All Town Employees, Boards, Commissions and Committees,

The Select Board voted unanimously to support and promote a Resolution Against Violence. You will see the Resolution attached to this memo and we strongly encourage you to read the document. This is an opportunity for where you can help stop violence in our community. The issues from the Resolution that we are asking to commit to are strong messages as to how we can band together as a town and stop violence and hatred from coming into our community.

We hope you all will move forward to support this important Resolution and along with your fellow workers and committee members, sign the Resolution as a method of your support against violence and hatred. Together, we can work towards our goal of a safe and engaging public place that embraces diversity and establishes a peaceful, inviting community.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Town Administrators office or you can sign your own sheets and forward them to the Select Board.

Thank you for participating in this important discussion and Resolution.

Sincerely,

Select Board

Mark Mathews, Chair

Tony Beattie, Clerk

Chuck Walkovich, Member

## A Resolution in the Wake of Increased Violence Across our Country

We, the undersigned, in somber recognition of the troubling and corrosive events we are witnessing across our country

- with the increased frequency of random and tragic acts of violence committed against our fellow citizens of all ages, races, ethnicities, genders, religions and personal identities;
- with too many lives senselessly lost, too many families irrevocably shattered and too many communities grievously shaken;
- with the safety and security of the common spaces of our towns and cities being undermined and eroded;
- with growing anger, frustration, fear, anxiety and grief jeopardizing our physical and mental well-being as well as those around us;
- with the acknowledgment that the causes of these horrible events are complex, multi-layered and multi-faceted;
- with the appreciation that strong communities, while not able to fully eliminate such tragedies, are a positive and lasting force in their prevention and reduction;
- with the understanding that solutions to this deadly epidemic lie not only in the halls of government or places of prayer but with each and every one of us;

Hereby do resolve and commit to ourselves and each other

- to value the personal right to live, first and foremost, above any other right granted us from any authority;
- to discourage and renounce the use of violence as a solution to any physical or emotional conflict;
- to live, work and play peaceably with and around our fellow citizens in our shared environment;
- to be present, aware and involved in the lives of our family, our neighborhood and our community, not as an overbearing presence but as a reliable, participating, supportive and entrusted member;
- to help weave a strong and dynamic community fabric that is flexible, vibrant and inclusive enough to incorporate each of our residents yet strong enough to act as a safety net to successfully catch the most vulnerable among us;
- to be watchful for those victimized, marginalized or forgotten and aid in getting them the compassion and assistance they need from those places most able to provide it;
- to communicate to our leaders of all levels and in all institutions any potential solutions which might constructively reduce the violence;
- to share this resolution and these commitments, wherever and whenever possible, and to promote these local values to a wider audience in an effort to grow an even larger and stronger community;
- to hold the hope that through these commitments we can strengthen the ties that bind us and turn the tide against these hateful acts of violence and eliminate the breeding grounds from which they are born.