

Village of Ballston Spa

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VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION RE: AUGUST 5TH EVENTS

WHEREAS, the members of the Ballston Spa Village Board of Trustees are aware of an unannounced protest on August 5, 2023, by the namesake of a group that is viewed by some organizations in the United States and Canada as a hate group and that was at least partially responsible for the destructive events of January 6, 2021, at the United States Capitol Building, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ballston Spa continues to reject hatred and racism and continues to have a long history of welcoming all who have come to call our wonderful Village home, and who have visited, and

WHEREAS, the Village of Ballston Spa welcomes all residents and visitors no matter the color of their skin, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Trustees wish to reaffirm their statement from August 2017 following the Charlottesville, Virginia riots,

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED AND REAFFIRMED, that the Board of Trustees of the Village of Ballston Spa will take all actions within its powers to emphasize the openness and inclusivity of our Village, to ensure both that all residents and visitors feel welcome and to make clear that there is no room in Ballston Spa for racism and hatred based upon race, ethnicity, religion, gender identity, or sexual orientation, and,

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies, their Village Attorney, and others to ensure that while the First Amendment rights of all individuals and groups are not violated, the Village will be able to provide safety, protection, and fair notice for its residents and all present in the Village before, during, and after groups choose to exercise such rights inside the Village.