



## STATEMENT FROM MAYOR EMILY SHARPE

The horrific acts of terrorism last weekend bring emotions of shock, sadness, anger and devastation. The fact that hatred and violence are still realities of our time leaves me speechless. The targeting of civilians is absolutely horrendous and unacceptable.

When events occur locally and around the world, we as elected officials are often asked to make statements. As Mayor, along with our Town Council, we are elected to govern at the local level. Global, national, statewide and sometimes even countywide affairs are not our area of expertise. As a Council, we have a policy that we engage in Town business only.

At the same time, I understand that during times like these when groups are being targeted, there is fear for one's own safety, even here locally. As your Mayor, I can assure you that our Town will not tolerate any acts of hatred or violence locally and condemn all acts of hatred and violence everywhere. Multiple members of our Council shared their individual sentiments on what is happening in Israel during our Town Council meeting on October 10 and some have reached out to individuals and groups to express their support during this time.

I will forever hope for peace around the world and condemn acts of hatred and violence. My heart goes out to everyone who is suffering. To my friends, colleagues and neighbors of Jewish faith, please know that you have my love and support always.

As always, I am committed to leading in a way that maintains our Town as a place where people feel safe, cared for and valued. In solidarity with States and municipalities around the country, our flags will be flown at half-staff in support of the Israeli people and in remembrance of the innocent lives lost.