

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
6.12.18 @ 5:30 , ADJOURNED 6:05 PM

COMMITTEE IN ATTENDANCE: LISA RYAN, PAUL CLIFFORD,
MATT WHITCOMB, WILLIAM NOTTE, CHAIRED BY MELINDA
HUMPHREY

OTHERS ATTENDING: ALDERMEN DAVIS, ETTORI & TOMMOLA,
GORDON DRETSCHILD , ROBERT LAYMAN, JIM SABATASO,
ERICA WALLSTROM, LESLYE NOVAK, GRETA SALSAA,
MARSHA CASSEL, CAROL TASHIE, VICTORIA QUINT , KIT O'CONNOR
(AMNESTY INT'L BY PHONE).

MEMBERS OF THE RUTLAND HIGH SCHOOL CHAPTER
OF AMNESTY INT'L PRESENTED THE RESOLUTION
TO THE COMMITTEE & INDICATED THEY PLANNED
TO REQUEST THE SAME ACTION OF OTHER
COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED @ RHS.

AGENDA ITEM: AMNESTY INT'L PROPOSED RESOLUTION IN
SUPPORT OF REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT.

AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION, WILL NOTTE MOVED
TO RECOMMEND TO THE FULL BOARD TO
SUPPORT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED.

MOTION PASSED 4 TO 1 .

ADJOURNED @ 6:05

City of Rutland Vermont

WHEREAS there are more refugees in the world today than at any time in recorded history, and half of the world's refugees are children;

WHEREAS refugees are fleeing armed conflict and human rights abuses in Africa, the Middle East, Southeast Asia, Central America, and other regions:

WHEREAS more than half of the world's refugees are hosted by only ten countries, and many of these countries do not have adequate resources to keep refugees fed, housed, or safe, leaving some refugees to survive on less than fifty cents a day:

WHEREAS there is a continued lack of funding for humanitarian aid for host countries, and food rations and medical aid have been repeatedly cut for refugees:

WHEREAS refugees who need to be resettled include torture survivors, people with severe medical conditions, LGBTQ+ individuals, children alone, and women and children at risk – all of whom cannot return home and cannot stay in their host country due to their extreme vulnerability:

WHEREAS the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has determined that 1.2 million refugees are in need of immediate resettlement, but fewer than 150,000 resettlement places are available worldwide:

WHEREAS we applaud the historic, bi-partisan tradition of the United States in welcoming refugees, which is in keeping with our national values and respect for human rights:

WHEREAS a refugee does not get to determine the country of resettlement:

WHEREAS if a refugee is a candidate for resettlement in the United States, that person must still be found admissible under U.S. immigration law:

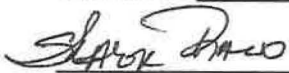
WHEREAS every single refugee must undergo a security vetting process that is lengthy and extremely detailed, taking 18 to 24 months and involving multiple law enforcement and intelligence agencies:

WHEREAS refugees are the most vetted individuals to enter the United States and are not permitted to travel to the U.S. until all security screenings have been successfully completed:

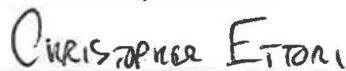
WHEREAS the Vermont Refugee Resettlement Program, the organization responsible for resettling refugees in this community, as well as numerous other community organizations and religious institutions, have declared their support for and demonstrated their success in resettling refugees in Rutland:

RESOLVED, the Rutland City Board of Aldermen declares its support for the resettlement of refugees in Rutland, no matter their religion, race, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, or country of origin, and calls upon other Vermont communities to join them in supporting a stronger national effort to resettle the most vulnerable refugees.

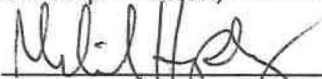
Passed this 18th day of June, 2018.



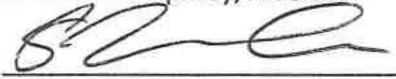
Sharon Davis, President



Christopher Ettori, Alderman



Melinda Humphrey, Alderman



Scott Tommola, Alderman

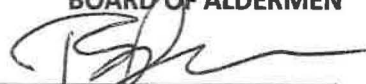


Rebecca Mattis, Alderman



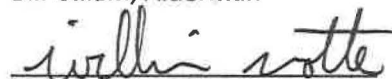
Matt Whitcomb, Alderman

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

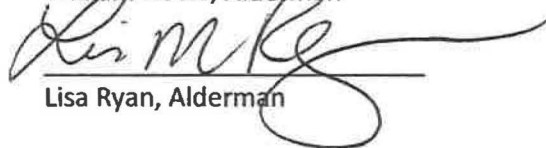


Tom Depoy, Alderman

Bill Gillam, Alderman



William Notte, Alderman



Lisa Ryan, Alderman

Paul Clifford, Alderman