

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 6:52 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 6:52am

**Name:** Carmen Schrock-Hurst

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Mon, 02/26/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7 a

**Comment:**

Please be a voice for the voiceless children, elderly, disabled and the other men and women of Gaza who are dying of hunger and thirst and have no where to go to avoid bombing and a ground invasion. May you be brave enough to urge our officials to put an end to this reign of violence. May God grant you wisdom and courage. Thank you.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 6:54 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 6:54am

**Name:** Rosemary Shenk

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Ceasefire in Gaza now. This year I became a grandmother for the first time. Every mother and grandmother should be able to bring up their children in peace and security. The war in the Middle East is killing children in both Israel and Gaza. Stop this children's war. If you lined up clothing representing the children (under 18) that have been killed so far in this war it would make a line of empty outfits side by side that stretched for three miles. This was a visual protest organized on Bournemouth Beach in the UK, <https://www.wnct.com/have-you-seen-this/thousands-of-childrens-outfits-laid-out-along-uk-beach-in-gaza-war-protest/>

The death toll in this war stands at nearly 30,000 and at least 11,500 of those are children, including 36 Israeli children. A ceasefire is the quickest way to stop killing, injuring, and traumatizing children in the Middle East. It is our moral imperative.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 6:18 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 6:18am

**Name:** Allison Yoder

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I am in full support of City Council passing the resolution calling for an Immediate Cease-Fire in Gaza and Israel.

I echo the sentiments outlined in the first 4 sections of this resolution.

Please pass this resolution and show that you really and truly value "the harmony that exists in our diverse community, and advocate[s] for the dignity and safety of all residents regardless of religion, race, or nation of origin."

Thank you.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 2:16 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 2:16pm

**Name:** Emily Hersberger  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**

Esteemed members of the Council,  
I was overjoyed to hear that you will bring a ceasefire resolution to the upcoming council meeting. As a Harrisonburg Mennonite with experience in Palestine and Israel, and as mother with two young children in our city schools, the extreme violence there, and especially the US's part in sustaining it, has weighed heavily on me. It has felt like our federal leaders are largely immovable in their policy approach and their determination to fund the weapons of war that have killed 13,000 children and 30,000 Gazans overall--and unwilling to acknowledge that the continuation of this war only increases the risk of antisemitism, anti-Arab, and anti-Muslim prejudice increasing here at home. Your willingness to amplify our message to our federal leaders is deeply meaningful to me; you are the first leaders I feel are listening, and I feel Harrisonburg is standing on the right side of history. I know that local and national politics are tense, and that there are no easy political solutions in such a polarizing moment. Know I support you and your efforts to listen and respond to your constituents in this way. I strongly support the passage of the resolution, and if it passes, will be proud to say that Harrisonburg was the first city in VA to join the national movement of local government passing resolutions. Thank you for your service to our city and our community.

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 2:29 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 2:28pm

**Name:** David and Mary Ann Kreider

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Harrisonburg City Resolution Calling for an Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza

**Comment:**

To our City Council Representatives,

We want to express our appreciation for your consideration of this urgent appeal as concerned citizens of our richly diverse Harrisonburg community, as a nation, and as global human family to call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. We have come to deeply appreciate the spirit of our community as a sanctuary for so many immigrants and refugees, and as community that believes in the beauty and preciousness of all human life, and which respects and supports the equal dignity and rights of all human beings as created in the image of God. As such we believe we must speak and act for justice in this spirit from all levels of our society. We are convinced that movements for transformation and social change, particularly in a democracy, fundamentally grow from the inside out and from the bottom up, and as such, what we do at the grassroots level matters profoundly in a system of governance that purports to be "of the people, by the people, and for the people."

As has been set forth by so many voices in our community, across this country, and around the world, the violence going on in Gaza, the toll on human life, most of which has been civilian and predominantly children, and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, has been on a scale that has been profoundly disturbing by any definition or characterization. The denial of avenues for humanitarian aid to the now desperate and impoverished 2.2 million people of Gaza has created a humanitarian disaster that is without parallel anywhere in the world right now. As a nation that has been aligned as an ally to Israel, who have given billions of our taxpayer dollars in military aid, essentially underwriting their military machine, and as a world power with veto privileges in the United Nations Security Council we bear a great responsibility in what is being allowed to happen there. Our moral compass or lack thereof has enormous consequences in the international arena. And as such our voice as the governing constituent base that elects our leadership matters greatly. We have a moral responsibility to our fellow human brothers and sisters to speak out when their very lives hang in the balance. We believe we must not be silent in this moment of history.

We believe there is no military solution to address the root causes that underlie these cycles of violence and trauma. Violence for violence only perpetuates more violence, resentment and alienation and compound the injustices that fester across these lines. The violence must stop for a negotiated resolution to these injustices to be initiated. We believe this is of fundamental interest to all the parties concerned here, both to Israelis as well as to Palestinians. As such, we are convinced calling for a ceasefire ultimately brings us all together in the interests of peace.

We are so grateful for our common interests as a community in building our common bonds across these lines of our identities, cultures and faiths. We believe we can be a unique testimonial to how our communities can coexist with mutual respect, appreciation and care. We are grateful as well for you our leaders who understand these values and

have worked so diligently and compassionately to this end and who are willing to support these efforts to engage these challenges that have such significant implications at all levels of our relationships as a human family.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:18 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 4:17pm

**Name:** Sana  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Mon, 02/27/2023  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:** Support for a ceasefire resolution  
**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:27 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 4:27pm

**Name:** Ross Gulliver  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:**  
City Council,

I ask you to please pass the ceasefire resolution. I am an ESL school teacher in a neighboring county, but I live in Harrisonburg. I have had students ask me about the situation in Gaza. It is affecting our local population, and I believe that we should model to our students and community the desire for peace in the world.

Thank you,  
Ross Gulliver

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:35 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 4:35pm

**Name:** Floyd Blosser

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

This resolution calling for a Ceasefire in Gaza is very well worded and I encourage Council to pass it. Thank you so much for your leadership. I am proud to be resident of a city that cares for all people, and especially refugees.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:42 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 4:41pm

**Name:** Brian Martin Burkholder

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I'm hopeful that Harrisonburg City Council will join other U.S. cities in calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, Palestine and Israel. This might feel like only a symbolic gesture but it is truly more than that as cities join the chorus calling for a ceasefire. Approving this resolution is indicative of calling for peace and justice toward a resolution that honors all life and peoples.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:28 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:28pm

**Name:** Esme Martin

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

As a student at Eastern Mennonite University and a current resident of Harrisonburg, I am asking the Harrisonburg City Council to pass this ceasefire resolution. I strongly believe that all life is precious, and I hope that Harrisonburg can stand for that belief. The turmoil in Gaza and Israel cannot continue - this resolution is an opportunity to urge the Biden administration to move in the direction of preventing the continuation of this violence. I strongly support this call for a ceasefire resolution in Harrisonburg, and thank you for your consideration.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:32 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:31pm

**Name:** Renae Benner

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I am a student at Eastern Mennonite University living in Harrisonburg this year. I am fully supportive of the resolution for a ceasefire in Palestine and Israel that is on the city council agenda this week. Currently, the US government is funding much of the war, making us complicit in the atrocities committed. I hope that the local government will take action to promote peace and end US military support of such violence.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:34 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:33pm

**Name:** Ahmed Mahmood  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**

Honorable Mayor and City Council Members,

My wife and I, Ahmed Mahmood and Sabeen Mahmood, are writing to express our strong support for the city council to adopt a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. As residents of this community for the past 15 years, we believe that our city has a moral obligation to speak out against the ongoing violence and urge for an immediate end to the conflict.

The ongoing situation in Gaza is deeply concerning and has caused immense suffering for innocent civilians on both sides. We urge the city council to utilize its platform to advocate for peace and call for all parties involved to lay down arms and seek a diplomatic solution to this longstanding conflict.

We believe that a resolution calling for a ceasefire would send a strong message of peace and solidarity from our community to the people of Gaza. It would demonstrate our commitment to the values of human rights and our desire to see a peaceful resolution to the conflict and return of hostages.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our request. We urge you to take a stand for peace and adopt a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza.

Sincerely,  
Ahmed and Sabeen Mahmood

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:39 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:39pm

**Name:** Liz Miller

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Please pass the city council resolution calling for a ceasefire in gaza, humanitarian aid, and release of all prisoners and hostages. National leaders will see that local and regional elected officials are supporting these statements — we need YOUR support to set an example for our elected officials on the national level.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:11 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 8:10pm

**Name:** Myron Schrock

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Hello, esteemed City Council members. A little about myself. I was born into the Southeastern Mennonite Conference community and have used the compassion and resources God has bestowed on my life to volunteer with CAM(Christian Aid Ministries) in the country's of Turkey and elsewhere after natural disasters. There was nothing else to do after the devastation but to rebuild. Gaza is experiencing a terrible amount of devastation but at the hands of men. Please take my plea-please vote yes on the Ceasefire Resolution 7.a!! Show Harrisonburg, Virginia, the United States, and the world, that Harrisonburg Va is a compassionate, a collective heartbreaking with the Palestinian, kind people. Do not be swayed by any outside influence. Show Harrisonburg will go down in history as The Friendly City(To All) that it is and well should be.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Cloverhill81@gmail.com

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:40 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 8:39pm

**Name:** Theresa Kubasak

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

As members of Valley Interfaith Action we applaud the efforts of City Council to make Harrisonburg the first city in Virginia to pass a resolution calling for a cease fire.  
We are proud of our community coming together.

..

Theresa Kubasak and Gabe Huck.

91 1/2 Franklin Street

Harrisonburg, VA 22801-4053

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:05 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:05pm

**Name:** Edward Ali

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** A ceasefire resolution

**Comment:**

I would like Friendly City of Palestine as Harrisonburg to pass ceasefire resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:09 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:08pm

**Name:** Timothy Godshall  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:**

I am in strong support for Harrisonburg City Council to pass a resolution calling for an immediate and permanent ceasefire. The scale of death and destruction that the Israeli military has inflicted upon residents of Gaza is truly horrific, and there is no end in sight. The Biden administration has continued to supply billions of dollars of military aid to Israel and has repeatedly vetoed UN resolutions for a ceasefire. This violence is being done in our name with our tax dollars and it must stop. Please add the official voice of the Friendly City to the growing call for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Gaza. Thank you.

Tim Godshall  
267 Green Street  
Harrisonburg VA 22802

**Contact:** Yes  
**Contact Info:** [timgodshall@gmail.com](mailto:timgodshall@gmail.com)

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:18 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:18pm

**Name:** Keaton Shenk  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**  
Dear City Council,

I write in support of the ceasefire resolution.

It's unusual that Harrisonburg would pass a resolution about an international issue. Yet Harrisonburg is an unusual community representing people from all over the world. And this is an 'unusual' situation in which more children, more medical personnel, and more UN staff have been killed in these last 4 months than anywhere in the world during a conflict. [Philippe Lazzarini] 'Doctors Without Borders' report children as young as 5, due to all the trauma and loss, saying they would prefer to die.

What if more people and groups had spoken up prior to the gruesome outcome of the Holocaust? Our city has an opportunity to publicly say no to the horrific bloodshed that makes it unsafe for Jewish and Palestinian/Arab/Muslim people everywhere. The City Council's passing of this resolution says 'no' to antisemitism and Islamophobia, and 'yes' to respect for the dignity of all people.

Thank you for your service on behalf of our community,  
Keaton Shenk  
1146 Sumter Court  
Harrisonburg, VA 22802

**Contact:**  
**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:35 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:35pm

**Name:** Shauna Frantz

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

As a Mennonite and a citizen of this city which has such a large population of residents displaced by war, I believe that Harrisonburg should indeed pass this historic resolution to urge an end to supporting the violence in Gaza and Israel. The US government is so explicitly complicit in these disproportionate attacks. By voicing a unified stand for ceasefire, our "friendly city" would be demonstrating a sense of integrity so badly needed by structures of power at this time.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 6:06 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 6:05am

**Name:** Linda Plitt Donaldson

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Resolution for Ceasefire

**Comment:**

I am a resident of Harrisonburg, and I am writing to ask you to vote for the resolution for a Ceasefire in Gaza.

The actions of Hamas were horrific. The Israeli government's response is also horrific. Israeli citizens are rising up in shame against the actions of their government. American Jews are leading many of the protests across the United States to speak out for peace, human rights, and the human dignity of all people. We are watching young Israeli's (nearly 300) refuse to join the Israeli military and going to jail because they don't want to be part of a murderous and dehumanizing process.

The Israeli government's actions have gone beyond self-defense and deterrence. A genocide is unfolding before our eyes. The crimes that the State of Israel is currently committing in Gaza include: the mass murder of over 32,000 Palestinians, including over 12,000 children, over 6,000 women, and 115 journalists; the use of starvation and dehydration as weapons of war against a captive civilian population; the forcible displacement of over 2 million Palestinian civilians from their homes; and the mass destruction of Gaza's civilian infrastructure including the bombing of hospitals, schools, universities, bakeries, mosques, and churches; and the damage and destruction of over 360,000 residential units.

Israel is facing multiple criminal charges in the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Court of Justice (ICJ) for many of the crimes listed above. Harrisonburg has Jewish and Palestinian citizens that have been deeply affected by this genocide. All of us are less safe because of this genocide and the US' complicity in enabling this to continue.

I am hoping that Harrisonburg will be one of a growing number of municipalities calling for a ceasefire in Gaza now.

Sincerely,

Linda Plitt Donaldson

1135 Sumter Court

Harrisonburg, VA

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 7:55 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
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**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 7:54am

**Name:** Israa Alhassani

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

The friendly city should respect the wishes of its citizens. Let the world know that you call for peace.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:10 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 8:09am

**Name:** Ruth Stoltzfus Jost

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Please support the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. I know many in our community who have traveled to Israel Palestine on learning tours, lived and worked there, and gone deeper than customary holy sites to look at the real life experience, particularly of Palestinians.

We will welcome your willingness to join with other cities across the nation to support ceasefire at this crucial time.

I spent a lifetime listening to the reports of my two aunts, Ada and Ida Stoltzfus, who traveled to Palestine in 1952 to do relief work for Palestinians who became refugees in their own country when Israel was established.

My aunts stayed 37 years and witnessed the illegal occupation after the '67 war and the illegal settlements of Palestinians land that continue to this day.

I thank you for your willingness to speak out and I urge you to support this resolution for a ceasefire to halt the indescribable suffering which the US is supporting and funding with our tax dollars.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Text 540.271.4014

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:29 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 8:28am

**Name:** Laura Sider Jost

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Please vote for the world you want, for an end to cycles of violence and trauma. Please vote for a ceasefire. Please make this an act of solidarity with all people who have ever been harmed by warring, many of whom live in our own community, and to support healing for those who have survived and those who might yet survive.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:07 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 11:07am

**Name:** Malia Bauman

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Sun, 02/25/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

This is a really important action for Harrisonburg to take. I believe that our support for a ceasefire resolution can be a very impactful statement. This can show our support in the humanity of both Palestinians and Israelis. No one deserves to be exposed to and subject to violence whether that is state sanctioned violence or from a group of people. The killings and violence needs to stop and by passing this resolution we are influencing the changes that need to be happening. This has to be passed as soon as possible to show the state and national government that work needs to be done and that we need a permanent ceasefire to stop the devastation happening in occupied Palestine and to Palestinians and Israelis.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:33 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 11:33am

**Name:** Lara Anne Ressler Horst  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:**

I am writing in support of the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. As a city resident, I ask that you pass the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza and as a voter, I appreciate a city council that is willing to take a stand on this issue, and that listens to community voices.

Cheers,  
Lara Ressler Horst  
367 Franklin Street  
Harrisonburg

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 12:43 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 12:42pm

**Name:** Soma Aga

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN  
GAZA AND ISRAEL

WHEREAS, all human life is precious, and the targeting of civilians, no matter their faith or ethnicity, is a violation of international humanitarian law; and

WHEREAS, Gaza and Israel have already experienced tremendous loss of life, displacement, and violence, and hundreds of thousands of lives are at imminent risk; and

WHEREAS, the City of Harrisonburg prides ourselves in being a City for All. As a refugee resettlement city, we are deeply affected by the turmoil in Gaza and Israel; and

WHEREAS, the Federal Government holds immense diplomatic and appropriations powers to save Palestinian and Israeli lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Harrisonburg City Council, on behalf of our community, implores our US Congressional delegation, both in the Senate and House of Representatives, to join us in urging the Biden administration to:

- 1) Immediately call for a cease-fire to urgently end the current violence; and
- 2) Promptly send and facilitate the entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; and,
- 3) Negotiate the release of hostages.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the City of Harrisonburg values the harmony that exists in our diverse community, and advocates for the dignity and safety of all residents, regardless of religion, race, or nation of origin; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Harrisonburg City Council asks the City Clerk to quickly forward copies of this resolution to the President of the United States and Harrisonburg's Congressional Delegation.

Adopted this 27th day of February, 2024

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 12:49 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 12:49pm

**Name:** Thomas Duval

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I strongly urge City Council to pass the ceasefire resolution at this meeting. Yes, I understand that it is just a symbolic action. Symbolic actions, large and small, have been at the inception of so many significant changes in our history. Many members of the Harrisonburg community will continue to take concrete actions as well, contacting our legislators, Congressional delegation and the White House.

My heart cries for the thousands of children who have died in Palestine and Israel, and the tens of thousands orphaned. This must stop! Humanity must return to being humane.

Thank you for all the time, discussion, and thought each of you has invested in this concern the last couple of months. Please, please vote to pass this resolution, for the children and for our human souls.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 3:18 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 3:18pm

**Name:** Emma Nord

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I sincerely hope this action goes through. The genocide in Gaza is heartbreaking and unnecessary, and I'm proud of Harrisonburg for speaking out against the needless violence and destruction. May peace prevail!

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 3:52 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 3:52pm

**Name:** Elizabeth Shenk

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7 a.

**Comment:**

Please pass the Ceasefire Resolution now. The continued violence is not making anyone safer-- here or in the Middle East. The Hamas actions were horrific, and the Israeli military's bombardment since that date has caused the death toll to reach nearly 30,000 (two thirds of whom are women and children). Humanitarian assistance of food, water and healthcare is not able to reach many who are injured and starving. Many people in Harrisonburg (including me) have connections with the people of Israel and Palestine. Please let Harrisonburg join with other cities around the U.S. who have already passed Ceasefire Resolutions. Thank you.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 5:42 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 5:42pm

**Name:** Theda Good  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** agenda item is 7.a  
**Comment:**

Dear Harrisonburg City Council,

As a resident of Harrisonburg City and a member of Shalom Mennonite Congregation, I am writing to let you know of my support for our city to support a Ceasefire Resolution. This in no way is to prefer one group over another, it's simply time to say enough to the bloodshed of innocent civilians, especially the children and young people whose homes, families, and way of life are being decimated in Gaza using our taxpayer dollars to fund the bombs that are being dropped on these Palestinians. I also want to emphasize the importance of the release of all hostages, prisoners of war, and those held without charge in prisons. War is not the answer to bring lasting peace to the Palestinians and Israelis who all have claim to the piece of land they all call home. What Hamas has done is evil, and what Israel is doing in Gaza is also evil. Let us as a city stand for the human rights of everyone.

May wisdom lead you,  
Theda Good

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 7:16 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 7:15pm

**Name:** Claire Parsley

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I would like to voice my hope that you will put the resolution that has been formed regarding the ceasefire in Gaza to a vote during this meeting. I understand that it is on the agenda but I sincerely hope it will be prioritized.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 7:58 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 7:57pm

**Name:** Daroon Jalil

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I would like to thank the Council for taking the time to discuss a ceasefire resolution. While some council members may be hesitant to adopt this resolution because it is "unconventional" or "unprecedented", it is very relevant to the Friendly City. We are uniquely positioned, as the Friendly City, to push for this ceasefire. How can we as the Friendly City, the city that very proudly touts how they provide refugee to individuals escaping war, genocide, and violence, NOT support a ceasefire resolution? What type of message does that send to the residents of the city? How can you acknowledge the past suffering these residents have gone through and not acknowledge the destruction that is happening that is causing suffering to millions for generations to come?

I don't imagine many issues has galvanized the community to attend the past few city council meetings to encourage the passing of a ceasefire resolution. Know that both the size of the group that is attending and the diversity in that group (in age, race, religion, occupation) reflects the diversity of people who support a ceasefire resolution.

Please recognize the power of our voices and of your voices and of a collective voice as a city when advocating for peace and know that even if the leaders in foreign countries do not see or hear this resolution, know that your community members do hear and they do see what you do. This is an issue that the community cares about deeply and an issue that has inspired many different groups across different demographics to organize. The momentum for this movement has only grown and this is not something that they will brush off. Your community members care about this. They see the suffering, they see the violence, they see how our tax dollars fund this massacre. While you don't have control over where our tax dollars go in a foreign context you do have control over representing our voices and the least we can do is speak out against this. You owe this to your community and to your own self, your heart, and your morality to stand up for peace.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:00 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 7:59pm

**Name:** Diar Jalil

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Please vote on the resolution this upcoming meeting and please vote to pass the ceasefire resolution. We should use our voices, no matter how small we may think it is, to speak out for peace and justice. Many Harrisonburg community members care about this and would like to see the resolution passed.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:07 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 8:06pm

**Name:** Sabriya Barza

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Don't delay the vote - bring the resolution to vote and vote YES to a ceasefire. As leaders of our city, you have the responsibility to represent the voices of our residents and the residents want an end to the violence.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:31 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 8:31pm

**Name:** Aurvan Koyee

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Resolution for Ceasefire

**Comment:** I am voicing my support for voting in favor of a resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 8:58 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 8:57pm

**Name:** Olivia Call

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Dear esteemed Council members,

I respectfully urge the city council to consider passing the Cease-fire resolution. It is a moral and humane act, and is not rooted in any sort of hate- it is rooted in love. I am heartened by how much y'all have shown that you care about hearing our voices through so much emotion and grief. It is noticed and appreciated! Please make our Friendly City the first city in Virginia to pass such a resolution that shows our unity and unwavering support to bring peace to the tormented city of Gaza. We do not need to put our tax dollars into funding war- let us fund humanitarian aide instead! Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,  
Livvy (Olivia) Call

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** olivia.call96@gmail.com

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 9:29 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 9:29pm

**Name:** John Fairfield

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I live in Bridgewater. But I taught in Harrisonburg (I am retired), was an employer in Harrisonburg, shop in Harrisonburg, and attend church in Harrisonburg. I write in support of the "RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN GAZA AND ISRAEL". It would be a stain on Harrisonburg if we did not call for a cease-fire. It is past time, this madness must stop.

With deep appreciation for this community,  
John Fairfield,  
Bridgewater

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 10:45 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 10:45pm

**Name:** Ben Bailey

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Please show your public support for a ceasefire to end the genocide in Palestinians.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:04 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 11:04pm

**Name:** Selena Sherzad

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Mon, 02/26/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

It is essential our community stands in solidarity with vulnerable people in light of mass atrocity - Harrisonburg City Council needs to call for a ceasefire resolution in Palestine. Consider the many who have sought refuge in this city and its surrounding counties as refugees, asylum seekers, and other identities due to war and persecution in their home nations. This is one powerful step to stand in solidarity against oppression.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Selena Sherzad  
selenasherzad@gmail.com



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 11:16 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Sunday, February 25, 2024 - 11:16pm

**Name:** Zachary Williams

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Like other cities who have been outspoken about the atrocities happening in Palestine, I feel it's equally important for Harrisonburg (the Friendly city) to emit a strong statement against the genocide happening in Palestine right now at the hands of the Israeli Defense Forces. This has the potential to make Palestinian members of the community to feel appreciated and seen and supported by their city. It's simple, it's the least this city council can do. Will it stop the genocide? No, but I think of the impact on even one single Palestinian person in the Harrisonburg community of the city making such a strong statement calling for the freedom of Palestinians.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 5:31 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 5:31am

**Name:** Katrina Morris

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I am commenting to urge the city to pass a ceasefire resolution. Currently there are thousands upon thousands of deaths with the death toll rising in Gaza. Many people are now also starving to death. This has to end. Harrisonburg should be on the right side of history and advocate for its many constituents that support a ceasefire in Gaza.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 5:40 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 5:40am

**Name:** David Shenk

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I'm writing to urge you to please support the passing of the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. We must do everything we can to stop the senseless killing of innocent people. Thank you in advance for supporting this resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 7:31 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 7:30am

**Name:** Meghan Schaaf

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I strongly urge you to pass the ceasefire resolution. This is the bare minimum of what we can do.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 7:34 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 7:33am

**Name:** Jennifer Davis Sensenig

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

The Muslim community, the Jewish community, the Christian community, and the people of other faiths and no faith in our community of Harrisonburg are building and strengthening relationships to combat hate and harm. We recognize that it is easy to splinter into "camps" or "sides" in terms of the war in Gaza. But the humanitarian crisis in Gaza demands that we temper our ideologies in order to save the lives of children, men, and women, who are being slaughtered. While the City of Harrisonburg is not responsible for conducting this or any other war, the City of Harrisonburg can add resident voices to the worldwide call for a ceasefire. Please pass this resolution as a matter of moral conscience.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 8:46 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 8:46am

**Name:** Eric Olson-Getty

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I'm writing in support of the proposed resolution for a ceasefire in Palestine to immediately save lives, and as a step towards the ultimate liberation of Palestine from colonial occupation. I also propose an amendment to item 3 on the release of hostages: this should include the release of all Palestinian hostages imprisoned by Israel.

While local governments like Harrisonburg City Council do not determine US foreign policy, it is never wrong to speak out when genocide is being perpetrated, no matter where you are positioned in the power structure. If this was a situation of schoolyard bullying, we would say that it is the responsibility of bystanders to actively intervene in support of the victim, to break the conspiracy of silence that emboldens the bullies by making them think what they are doing is acceptable. Any word of protest is meaningful, if for no other reason than to tell the victim that their life is valuable. You have a role in the community as people of power and influence, so help us to normalize dissent (and not oppression) by taking a clear, public, moral stance.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 8:54 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 8:53am

**Name:** Spencer Spears

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Ceasefire NOW! The genocide must end. Our city cannot be complicit. We cannot ignore the cries for help. We cannot ignore the plea of humanity. From the river to the sea Palestine will be free. END THE OCCUPATION.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 7:57 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 7:57am

**Name:** Caleb Schrock-Hurst

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I am a local Mennonite pastor, and I am in full support of the city passing this resolution calling for peace in Gaza.

Thanks for your consideration and hard work in keeping our city running.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:03 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 4:03pm

**Name:** Eleanor Merrow

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

Dear Council Menbers,

With all my heart, I urge you to pass the Ceasefire Resolution this evening.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Merrow

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Elemerrow@gmail.com

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 4:03 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 4:02pm

**Name:** Eleanor Merrow

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

Dear Council Members,

With all my heart, I urge you to pass the Ceasefire Resolution this evening.

Sincerely,

Eleanor Merrow

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Elemerrrow@gmail.com

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 5:30 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 5:30pm

**Name:** Nazia Hassankhan

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Harrisonburg has a diverse community that wants to feel supported by our City electives. Please sign the vote for Ceasefire so we don't feel complicit in the ethnic cleansing currently happening in Palestine! The historic Civil War trails in Harrisonburg reminds us that we can overcome anything! Make this historical vote and be on the right side of history! Thank you!

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 5:00 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 5:00pm

**Name:** Murphy Johnson

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

As a member of the Harrisonburg City community, I encourage the City Council to adopt the resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. The actions of the Israeli state and army can no longer be labeled self-defense, if ever it was possible to label them such in the first place. It is not self-defense to murder children. It is not self-defense to destroy hospitals. It is not self-defense to push people into camps and bomb them. It is not self-defense to block and deny aid from reaching people in desperate need. It is not self-defense to sign contracts with oil companies for land you do not have legal rights to. It is not self-defense to advertise vacations to resorts built on the shelled ruins of cities you destroyed. We the city of Harrisonburg need to join our collective voice to the others calling for an end to violence in Gaza. By adopting this resolution, we send a message of solidarity for the rest of this country and world to see: we will not stay silent and complicit to this violence. Ceasefire now!

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 5:58 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 5:57pm

**Name:** Mary Ann Kreider

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Ceasefire Resolution

**Comment:**

I want to thank members of Council for their willingness to listen to your constituents who care so deeply about the slaughter taking place in Gaza and of the plight of the hostages. My longing for peace arises from living in Gaza throughout my childhood and being exposed to the harshness of the occupation and disenfranchisement of the Palestinian population but also because I observed and experienced firsthand the deadly result of the cycle of violence so prevalent in this longstanding conflict while living there. My father nearly lost his life and a nurse colleague of his was killed. The solution cannot be gained through horrific attacks on civilians, whether Israeli or Palestinian. A ceasefire is the first step in stopping genocide and finding a sustainable solution. Thank you for considering joining 70 other cities in supporting this important symbolic action.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 6:03 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 6:02pm

**Name:** Angela Ji

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I'm following what's happening in Gaza: the Palestinian refugees who Israel is deliberately starving as they shelter in overcrowded tents, the injured Palestinian children who've been forced to get amputations without anesthesia, the Palestinian families shot dead by Israeli snipers as they flee hospitals, and the Palestinian boys and men stripped naked in the cold and severely tortured by Israeli soldiers in concentration camps. There have been an untold number of mass graves, field executions, and other horrific war crimes, most of which we do not even know yet due to Israel's telecommunications blackout. And now, Israel has begun its latest genocidal massacre in Rafah to slaughter or forcibly remove the 1.9 million Palestinians sheltering there—directly against the International Court of Justice's orders.

It's undeniable that this is a genocide. I'm horrified that my government has been using my tax dollars to fund Israel's mass killings of 36,000+ Palestinian people, including 14,000+ children. The only way to stop this genocide is a PERMANENT CEASEFIRE NOW. Why have you not taken the absolute bare minimum step to call for a permanent ceasefire, as supported by a 61% majority of the American public?

As your constituent and a supporter of the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR), I'm demanding that you stop arming and enabling Israel's massive violence. It's extremely urgent, as Israel kills another Palestinian person every four minutes.

Israel's mass killing of Palestinians, which has gone on for decades from Gaza to Jenin to Jerusalem, must be stopped. And yet, the Biden administration has fanned the flames of genocide, promising to send Israel more weapons and military funding. I will not accept politics-as-usual of words of concern without U.S. policy change. That approach gives Israel a free pass to keep massacring the Palestinian people. Peace is not possible without justice, which begins with an end to Israel's military occupation, theft of native Palestinian land, and attacks on Palestinian lives.

Take action to deescalate today. Call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire and an end to all U.S. complicity in Israel's violence, including ending U.S. military funding to Israel.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 6:52 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 6:52pm

**Name:** Naomi Beecroft

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a Ceasefire Resolution

**Comment:**

I wanted to add my voice to the chorus of community members asking you to support this ceasefire resolution.

Gratitude

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 6:54 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 6:54pm

**Name:** Muhammad Ittefaq

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Ceasefire Resolution

**Comment:**

Being a resident of Harrisonburg for almost two years, I care about who we are as city and community. This is particularly important during a time of crisis. If we are not united now, then when? I am strongly supporting this resolution. I hope the city will pass this ceasefire resolution and give a message to the world that Harrisonburg is truly a friendly and inclusive city. We can all say but what matters is action. This a time to act.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 3:57 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 3:56pm

**Name:** Kate Weaver

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Please support the ceasefire resolution and vote in favor of the resolution. A ceasefire is needed now in Gaza and aid to Gaza is needed now. Please pass this resolution to show that Harrisonburg supports a ceasefire now!

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 3:58 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 3:57pm

**Name:** Zoe McQuade

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

As a Jewish Constituent of Harrisonburg, I am writing in support of passing a ceasefire resolution in the city of Harrisonburg. I grew up learning extensively about the holocaust and persecution against Jews, and when I say "Never Again," that applies to everyone, not just the Jewish people. Regardless of where you all lean on the political spectrum, it cannot be denied that the citizens of Palestine are undergoing tremendous tragedy and trauma. I do not believe that this level of suffering is necessary for the safety of the Jewish people. As a Jew, I feel as though it is my duty to advocate for an immediate and permanent ceasefire, and to cut funding to Israel until the fire has stopped and humanitarian requirements are fully and adequately met.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** 8043827276

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 3:53 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 3:53pm

**Name:** Silas Clymer

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

My heart breaks for those affected by horrific violence in Palestine and Israel, and I am deeply concerned by our country's complicity in the killings. I urge this city to do its part in pressuring the higher government to call for an immediate ceasefire. Please pass this resolution to let the world know where we stand.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 2:59 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 2:59pm

**Name:** Danial Rashid

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

We the citizens of Harrisonburg thank the city council for their consideration of a ceasefire resolution calling for peace and humanity to return to the Occupied Palestinian territories and Israel.

Harrisonburg residents overwhelming stand with a conscious vote for a ceasefire as does majority of the American public.

Please consider voting yes on this resolution to show our federally elected officials they are in need of listening to their constituents. Passing this resolution would make Harrisonburg the first city in Virginia to do so, and lead by example as many other cities are also considering it.

Thank you.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Rashiddanialx@gmail.com

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 2:47 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 2:47pm

**Name:** James Paetkau  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**

Hi,

I want to add my comment and voice to urge the city council to adopt the resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Israel. This resolution feels extremely important in the context of continued invasion and killing in Rafah amidst a larger context of violence and genocide undertaken by the Israeli government.

As a resident of Harrisonburg I find it extremely important that Harrisonburg adds their voice to a growing number of small towns and cities across the United States that have already passed resolutions calling for a ceasefire. I believe that justice occurs collectively and that by adding our voices to this growing pressure on our federal government we can join collective liberation movements that have an impact in Palestine and simultaneously have impact here in our local communities.

I am very grateful for the labor, time, and energy that each of you on the city council have given to Harrisonburg. I have also heard your request that we remained engaged in city council meetings and local government beyond the passing of this resolution. I find myself far more excited about doing that work if we are able to pass this resolution I would look forward to your continued leadership in guiding us through conversations with state representatives.

Thank you!

**Contact:** Yes  
**Contact Info:** Email - paetkauj@gmail.com

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 2:15 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 2:14pm

**Name:** Tim Seidel

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I affirm the Harrisonburg City Council in calling for a ceasefire in Gaza, the entry of humanitarian aid, and the release of all hostages and political prisoners. This will signal to the community and our elected officials at the federal level, that this is a significant issue of great concern in our city. My gratitude to the City Council for drafting this resolution, and placing it on the agenda, and I strongly urge the City Council to pass this resolution.

The situation in Gaza is dire. The Gaza Strip is a small strip of land (141 square miles) that is home to 2.3 million Palestinians, over half are children. The majority of Palestinians in Gaza are refugees living food, water, and housing insecure. It is one of the most densely populated places on the planet. Palestinians are confined to what the Israeli human rights organization B'Tselem has called the world's largest open-air prison. Palestinians in Gaza literally have no place to go.

It has been over four months since the beginning of a series of catastrophic events in Gaza, the West Bank, and Israel. After Hamas' attack on October 7, which killed some 1,200 Israelis, injuring thousands more, Israel launched a campaign of genocidal violence on Gaza killing some 30,000 Palestinians, over 12,000 of whom are children, and injuring almost 70,000 more. Over 1.7 million (75%) Palestinians are displaced in Gaza right now. And over 7,000 more are missing, believed to be trapped or dead under the rubble. (These numbers are from UN OCHA reports; unfortunately, horribly, these numbers are changing by the hour.) One Israeli scholar of genocide writing in Jewish Currents has called Israel's attack on Gaza a "textbook case of genocide." The conclusion was reiterated last month by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in The Hague. South Africa brought charges of genocide against Israel to the ICJ, and in January the ICJ ruled that Israel's violence in Gaza is probable genocide.

The United States has enabled this genocide. This is one piece that sets this situation apart for me. The U.S. supplies the most military aid to Israel, \$3-4 billion a year, which accounts for about two-thirds of Israel's arms imports (the largest recipient of U.S. aid). An additional \$14 billion was part of a package approved by the Senate earlier this month. The U.S. also maintains large weapons stockpiles in Israel, which the United States has allowed the Israeli military to draw from. The U.S. just vetoed another resolution in the UN Security Council calling for a ceasefire. And in response, over the last four months, hundreds of thousands of people have organized and protested all around the world—including in our own city—calling for a ceasefire. The White House is not listening. Congress is not listening. But we are heartened by the knowledge that you, City Council, are listening.

I lived and worked in Palestine-Israel from 2004-2007 (our son, a senior at HHS, was born in Palestine during that time). My research and teaching have brought me back several times since then, including leading learning delegations. Most recently I co-led a six-week intercultural program last summer with twenty EMU students. I have been deeply distressed by Israel's assault on Gaza. Israel's violence against the Palestinian people has been extreme in its disproportionality

(and that media coverage in the west obscures): one of the most powerful armies on the planet, supported by my government, using its full might against 2.3 million besieged, poor people, half of whom are children, most of whom are refugees, in one of the world's most densely populated places.

This is an issue that resonates with so many in our community, not only because of the loved ones we have in Palestine and Israel, our deep connections to that land, or our faith commitments that demand a response. This issue resonates so strongly because it is a nodal point of solidarity for people struggling for freedom all over the world and locally here in Harrisonburg. It echoes Dr. King's words "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly." I also hear this in the words of the Israeli organization Zochrot in their call for a ceasefire: "Our safety and wellbeing are dependent on each other. No one is safe until everyone is safe."

I strongly urge the City Council to pass this resolution.

Thank you.

Tim Seidel  
300 Rockingham Dr, Harrisonburg, VA  
tnseidel@gmail.com

**Contact: No**  
**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 1:03 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 1:02pm

**Name:** Amelia Morrison

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

It would be a profoundly meaningful, perhaps symbolic, but still with the potential to become instructive for federal and international leaders, if Harrisonburg, a city committed to welcome refugees of war like Gazans, to call for a ceasefire. While our tax dollars continue to fund the bombing of hospitals, schools, sanctuary sites, and neighborhoods, we are all responsible for the unspeakable suffering starvation and mass death occurring in Gaza at the hands of the far right Israeli government. Nothing would impress me more than seeing Harrisonburg city council take a stand on this issue, to demonstrate the values our city stands for. It may open necessary conversations in our city about the true history of Israel's repression of the Palestinians in their efforts to establish their state, and it has powerful implications for our ability to discern propaganda from truth. But it also more importantly reflects a line in the sand, wherein genocide is never justifiable. Ceasefire NOW!

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Email: ameliamorrison6@gmail.com



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 1:09 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 1:08pm

**Name:** Mohammad Shah

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.5

**Comment:**

I am respectfully requesting that agenda 7.a be added to tonight's meeting. Looking forward to this.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:53 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 11:52am

**Name:** Sheikh Altaf

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Sat, 02/24/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Resulation to stop Israel for war

**Comment:**

I am residence of Harrisonburg. Please pass resulation to stop Israel to stop war.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:19 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 12:19pm

**Name:** Connie Wright-Zink

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7(a)

**Comment:**

I am in complete support of voting to approve a cease fire in Gaza. Virginians need to make their voices heard to let other communities do the same

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:24 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 11:23am

**Name:** Avi Stein

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Wed, 02/07/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

I URGE the Council to adopt this ceasefire resolution. I understand the concerns that the Council has expressed, but as a Jewish resident of Harrisonburg, I am telling you that those are not as important as getting this resolution passed. This is symbolic, of course, but that is not a bad thing at all. Most actions are symbolic, but that is the beauty of them. Symbolic actions are powerful, and they signal intent and care to the community as well as the state as a whole. This is also not antisemitic. This is a critical resolution for both myself and groups within the city that have been advocating for it. I am incredibly thankful that the Council is considering this resolution tonight, and I am hopeful for a good outcome.

We will keep the decision in mind when we go to the polls.

Let us become the first city in Virginia to pass a resolution.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:**

5715858591 - phone number, by text ideally

avistein01@gmail.com - email address

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:50 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 12:50pm

**Name:** Megan Good  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**

Mayor Reed and Council members,

As a long-time resident of Harrisonburg, I would like to express my support for item 7a on tonight's city council agenda (02/27/2024): adopting a resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and Israel. I am deeply grieved by the way the US government has responded to Israel's clear violations of international law in Gaza/Palestine, and by my congress members' failure to support an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. I know that as Harrisonburg City Council, you do not have direct power to influence US foreign policy. However, you do have the ability to amplify the voices of the community that you serve. You know, perhaps better than most, not to underestimate the power of local political action. Thank you for engaging with the various groups and voices who have brought this resolution to you for consideration. I deeply respect the work that you do and hope that you will heed the voices of your community.

Regards,  
Megan Good

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 11:02 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 11:01am

**Name:** Mariana Martinez

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Do not let your hearts harden or ice over. I beg you to give us hope for this town. Ensure that this is, in fact, the Friendly City and not some illusion; one that panders to supremacist, uncompromising, and cruel powers that be. I beg you to have empathy, to look at this resolution as a way to tear down and rebuild at the same time. I beg you to consider the mouths that have not been fed, the backs that remain uncovered, the families separated, mothers left to die, children born into ash and rubble, fathers digging through rubble, siblings and elders- dying. Dead. What if that was here? Do you not see? Do you not feel? How many deaths will it take? Do not let your hearts harden or ice over. Please. Please. Please. Pass this resolution and be on the right side of history and humanity.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 5:13 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 5:13pm

**Name:** Banda Rasoul

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Mon, 02/26/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

This message is better than nothing but it would be shorter and possibly better if it would say:

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN ISRAEL/PALESTINE!

But you know as they say "...you can't please all of the people all of the time." or can you.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 5:56 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 5:55pm

**Name:** Erica Cavanagh  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**

Dear City Council Members,

I ask that the City Council join dozens of other towns in the United States calling for a ceasefire on Gaza. As of now, 85% of Palestinians who were living in Gaza have been displaced. According to the AP, over 29,000 have been killed (latest statistics 2.19.2024). Using publicly available data, the nonprofit Oxfam calculated that the number of average deaths per day for Gaza is higher than any recent major armed conflict including Syria (96.5 deaths per day), Sudan (51.6), Iraq (50.8), Ukraine (43.9) Afghanistan (23.8) and Yemen (15.8). Part of the reason for this is that Gaza is so densely populated, and the reason it is so densely populated resides in the settler colonial policies that date back to 1948 and even before when the region was under British colonial rule.

This conflict didn't start on October 7th. As former Jimmy Carter stated in a 2001 interview with Charlie Rose, Israel has created an apartheid state that oppresses Palestinians. Amnesty International, Oxfam, and many other international NGOs agree.

I do not excuse Hamas's terrorist tactics or the financial corruption within the organization. However, Israel has created a kind of ghetto, cordoned off with walls, checkpoints, and barbed wire. In response to ghetto oppressions, some members of the oppressed population have descended into violent acts. When James Baldwin wrote about the race riots of 1943, he called the wealth lost from the destruction of those riots "a waste", but he also understood that "Harlem needed something to smash" ("Notes of a Native Son"). This same kind of human anguish is happening in Palestine, a place and a people that doesn't have anywhere near the resources of the Israeli government to defend itself.

The Israeli government and IDF are exacting revenge on the entire Palestinian population, including those in the West Bank, as is evident from the casualties and destruction as well as news reports of the IDF's disturbing and dehumanizing behavior. Please see the NYTimes and elsewhere for reports of the IDF's bombastic cheering when they drop missiles on Gaza apartment buildings and posting to their social media accounts pictures of them posing with Palestinian women's undergarments and calling them "sluts." This is dehumanizing behavior that is reminiscent of WWII fascism and white supremacy.

This is the moral issue of our time. I beg you to please support this initiative to call for a ceasefire.

Erica Cavanagh



**Contact: Yes**

**Contact Info: [erica.k.cavanagh@gmail.com](mailto:erica.k.cavanagh@gmail.com)**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 6:52 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 6:52pm

**Name:** Cynthia Stewart

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Ceasefire

**Comment:** It is absolutely necessary to immediately declare a ceasefire.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 9:17 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 9:16pm

**Name:** Rehana Franklin

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

On this meeting that will be held on 02/27/2024, if the city of Harrisonburg could be the first in the Commonwealth of Virginia to openly support a ceasefire between Israel and Palestine, we would be on the worthy side of history. While this resolution may be symbolic and one amongst dozens that are floating around the USA, the point of a free democracy is to represent justice and it's citizens. Whether our country does or does not is another matter, but our city can at least have shown a dignified stance.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 9:56 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 9:56pm

**Name:** Bethany Chupp

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7A

**Comment:**

This comment is in support of the resolution calling for a ceasefire in Palestine. As the Friendly City, it is our duty and our identity to advocate for the wellbeing and rights of marginalized and oppressed people. We are to fight for peace. We are to stand for what's right. We are to say to our Palestinian neighbors and friends that they belong and have the right to life and to safety, whether here or in Gaza.

Harrisonburg represents a voice for peace and for change in this area, and this is another opportunity for us to stand firm in our values.

Ceasefire now.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 11:47 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 11:46pm

**Name:** Lindsey Sitz

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7

**Comment:**

City council members—it is absolutely imperative that you firmly stand on the right side of history and support a permanent and immediate ceasefire in Gaza. As a Jewish American, the fact that my tax dollars have funded Israel's slaughter of almost 30,000 Palestinian people absolutely guts me. I implore you to make the right choice about this genocide.

Thank you,  
Lindsey

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Lnsitz5@gmail.com

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 12:23 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 12:22am

**Name:** Rebecca C

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

I'm writing to urge the City of Harrisonburg to pass a Ceasefire Resolution. At the time of writing this, we've been witnessing a genocide in Gaza for 144 days and counting.

It is our responsibility as a community to stand up for what is right. An immediate ceasefire and prompt humanitarian aid is urgently needed to save lives in Gaza. Passing a ceasefire resolution at the local level will show our US Congressional delegation where our community stands. It will reaffirm that they must take swift action to urge the Biden administration to secure a permanent ceasefire.

Ceasefire now!

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 7:21 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 7:20am

**Name:** Katy CrLey

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I urge the city council members to appreciate the gravity of passing a Ceasefire Resolution. As community members, we understand that this act in itself will not be able to stop bombs from dropping in Palestine, nor be able to deliver much needed food, medicine and living supplies to millions of displaced peoples. Yet this decision is woven into a fabric of citizen power, of people standing together globally to say that we are in favor of life, not violence, and an end to the horrors of ongoing settler colonialism. Please pass this resolution, it is no small act, but a a necessary one.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 7:29 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 7:28am

**Name:** Sarah Sutter Kaufmann

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7A

**Comment:**

I am a Harrisonburg resident, EMU and JMU alum. This city has been such a "friendly city" to me for years - now I urge the council to be a "friendly city" to others and pass the resolution in support of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:02 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 8:01am

**Name:** Virginia Showalter  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Dear Harrisonburg City Council,

Thank you for your work on behalf of our city. I am writing to voice my hope that City Council will approve the resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza, to show the way for other Virginia cities to do the same. As the war in Gaza and the violence against the Palestinian people continues, we pray that our actions--like this resolution--will be a symbol that the liberation of humanity is bound together. Their struggle is our struggle, their grief is ours. We call for the ceasing of violence, for humanitarian aid to be delivered to those who need it most, and for all hostages to be released. May justice and peace be present in our community and in every community around the world.

Sincerely,

Virginia Showalter  
Harrisonburg, VA

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 8:21 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 8:20am

**Name:** Bryce Yoder

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

As a lifelong member of the Harrisonburg Community and a Graduate of Eastern Mennonite University, I am in full support of this Ceasefire Resolution. We have a responsibility to promote peace here in the friendly city and to live up to our name for our citizens, especially those with family members in both Gaza and Israel.

During my time at Eastern Mennonite University, I studied abroad in both Israel and Palestine, specifically in the West Bank. I have tremendous pride for my alma mater because of the ways they challenged my world view. Eastern Mennonite offers one of the most unique experiences of any university in that they offer spending time with both Israeli and Palestinian host families in their Middle East study abroad program. In the month I lived with my Palestinian host family I learned a tremendous amount. I saw first hand the brutal life under occupation that the Palestinians were living, their families separated by countless checkpoints, their crops burned and bulldozed over, and the settler violence they experienced on a day-to-day basis. They are treated like second-class (or lower) citizens in the West Bank.

Through all of this however, I was treated with respect, love, and hospitality by my host family. They were patient with me as I butchered my Arabic pronunciations and grammar, they provided me with breakfast, dinner and as much tea as I could drink every day, and I shared moments of joy and laughter playing soccer with their children and neighbors as they attempted to claim a semblance of a normal life. I was treated far better than I deserved as an American. One whose tax dollars fund their occupation in the West Bank, and whose tax dollars now fund the slaughter and ongoing starvation of tens of thousands of human beings in the Gaza strip.

We have a responsibility as a diverse refugee resettlement community to make a stand against these horrific actions. The eye opening-experiences I had in Palestine in 2014 changed the way I thought about and interacted with democracy in this country. I am proud of my school for allowing us to have those raw and challenging experiences, and I am proud of the work my city has done in collaboration with my school. The two create a synergistic community that truly strives for acceptance, peace, love and understanding. I am unbelievably proud of this town for its support of EMU and I believe EMU is part of what makes this place such a vibrant and incredible place to live.

The absolute LEAST we can do as citizens of Harrisonburg is pass a resolution that may encourage others in our state to show support. Even if passing this resolution is solely symbolic, wouldn't we want to be known as the one city in VA that stood up for what was right? Who stood up for humanity in what will inevitably be looked at as another blunder of the US military's involvement in the Middle East? If the horrific events of the last 4 months aren't enough to warrant calls for an immediate ceasefire, what further actions will we allow our administration to comply with and how far will we go? We are begging you to pass this resolution for our Palestinian and Israeli neighbors both at home in Harrisonburg and abroad. Thank you.

**Contact: No**  
**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:22 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:22am

**Name:** Reslie Cortes Fradera

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

We must support a ceasefire resolution to send a clear message to Washington that the people are disgusted by the US military, financial, and political support of the genocidal regime of Israel. As a reserve's community it is essential to support Okie Muslim, Arab, and Palestinian neighbors. We must not sponsor the genocide of the Palestinian people! While this is symbolic it is our only means of putting political pressure on the federal government to stop this. Enough!

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:27 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:26am

**Name:** JMU faculty member scared to lose if name is shared

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Use Israel before Palestine as I comes before p alphabetic, otherwise it will look biased.

Make hostage negotiation top most priority to reduce antisemitic complaint against the city government.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:38 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:37am

**Name:** Muawia Dames

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

Harrisonburg City, given its unique position as a refugee resettlement and peace loving society are well positioned to step up in leadership to send a vote of protest to our National leadership who provide unchecked unconditional support for the war against the people of Palestine. While the resolution falls far short in addressing the current atrocities by Israel it's a first step after 4 1/2 months of killings, displacement, starvation and terror which have all occurred with American tax dollars support. This impacts of America/Israel war against the Palestinian people will have lasting effects for years to come.

The resolution fails to mention the 10,000 political prisoners held hostage including children and the elderly for crimes such as throwing rocks or displaying their flag. Today international organizations report the torture and rape of these prisoners as Israel is not a signatory for Prisoner rights and are not held to account.

Furthermore the resolution falls short in addressing Americas Veto power in the United Nations which could have avoided and/or ended the Genocide from happening in the first place.

This resolution is a small but not insignificant step in redressing our Nations culpability in War crimes against humanity and showcases to the world the we as a nation revere our Democracy but the world is calling out our Hypocrisy.

Ceasefire Now.....Free Palestine.....End the Occupation.....Full rights for all from the Rivèr to the Sea.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** 540-560-9045

MuAwia.dames@gmail.com

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:38 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:37am

**Name:** Mohammad Najeeb Khalid

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7 .a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA , Stop killing innocent people,  
Respect HUMANITY

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:40 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:39am

**Name:** Akbar Ali

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire, Stop killing innocent people in GAZA,  
Respect HUMAN LIFE

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:41 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:41am

**Name:** Sumaira Akbar

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA , Stop killing innocent people, Respect Humanity

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:41 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:41am

**Name:** Maliha Khan  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:** We stand with Palestine , ceasefire now  
**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:43 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:42am

**Name:** Shafqat Tara

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA , Stop killing innocent people, Respect for EVERYONE

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:44 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:44am

**Name:** Iman Najeeb

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA, Stop killing innocent people, Respect HUMANITY

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:44 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:44am

**Name:** Jonathan McRay

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Thank you for considering this resolution! Passing it recognizes the links between the local and global, but it also says a lot about the kind of place Harrisonburg wants to be for its people and the world. Advocating for a ceasefire is a bare minimum. Opposing a ceasefire advocates more killing.

I encourage an amendment to number 3 to state "negotiate the release of ALL hostages," which would include the remaining Israeli and international hostages in Gaza as well as the thousands of Palestinians held without trial in Israeli jails and prisons. This amendment aligns with the demands of Palestinian negotiators, as well as the demands from families of Israeli hostages who call for the exchange of "All for All." Maybe this demand can also shine a light on our own incarceration in the nearby jail and in Middle River Regional Jail so we can imagine more just and more effective ways to keep everyone safe.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:45 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:45am

**Name:** Mohammad Momin Najeeb

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA, Stop killing innocent people, Respect Humanity

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:46 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:45am

**Name:** Maliha Khan  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:** We stand with Palestine , ceasefire now  
**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:46 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:46am

**Name:** Moahid Najeeb

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA, Stop killing innocent people, Respect Humanity

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 9:47 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 9:47am

**Name:** Wali Najeeb

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** Ceasefire in GAZA, Stop killing innocent people, Respect Humanity

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 10:18 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 10:18am

**Name:** Ahmad Abdul Ali

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** Ceasefire for Gaza

**Comment:**

This genocide needs to be stop, it's my duty and moral obligation as citizen to speak out the truth. I don't want my tax dollar to support this GENOCIDE!

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 10:18 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 10:18am

**Name:** Dave Powell

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I want to voice my backing for the Resolution Calling for An Immediate Dease-Fire in Gaza and Israel. Please adopt this resolution on behalf of the people in our own community who are impacted by this war and the many women, men, and children in Gaza and Israel who have lost loved ones and are being affected daily by this conflict. It would make me proud to call Harrisonburg my home, but more importantly would add to the voices throughout the world working to tip the scales toward a lasting peace.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 10:37 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Tuesday, February 27, 2024 - 10:36am

**Name:** E. Schneider

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

I strongly urge City Council to adopt this resolution in calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 3:47 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 3:47pm

**Name:** Michael Snell-Feikema  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a  
**Comment:**  
Dear City Council Members,

First, I want to thank the members of the City Council who have already decided to support the Harrisonburg City Council Ceasefire resolution and encourage those members of the Council who are undecided or opposed to please consider adding their support and making this resolution unanimous. I am positive that every member of the Council is profoundly opposed to the terrible crime against humanity of genocide. Although it will require 2-4 years for the International Court of Justice ICJ to rule on whether Israel has is committing genocide, the ICJ did issue an order "... stating that "it has jurisdiction over South Africa's charges of genocide against Israel and that Israel's actions are plausibly genocidal."

The conventions against genocide are designed to prevent or stop genocide, not just make a judgement about whether it has occurred or not, after the fact, when it is too late. For this reason, the ICJ issued this order to Israel based on plausibility. According to Layne Mullet of the American Friends Service Committee

"The court issued an order that calls on Israel to take all measures within its power to prevent actions that violate the Genocide Convention, including killings and deliberately inflicting on the Palestinian people conditions of life calculated to bring their physical destruction. Since October 7, Israel has killed over 26,000 Palestinians – 42 percent of them children – and is using starvation and the destruction and obstruction of access to health facilities as tools of war. The Court also called for immediate measures to ensure humanitarian aid is reaching people in Gaza. This is a historic decision that should serve as a call to action for all those who have stayed silent in the face of these atrocities.

The measures demanded by the court cannot be realized without an immediate ceasefire."  
<https://afsc.org/newsroom/international-court-justice-says-israels-actions-are-plausibly-genocidal-what-are-we-going>

Our national government is, tragically, not fulfilling its responsibilities as a signatory to the Geneva Convention against Genocide. This is unfortunate because it is "our federal government" that "holds immense diplomatic and appropriations powers to save Palestinian and Israeli lives" (from proposed City Council Ceasefire resolution).

"All of our missiles, the ammunition, the precision-guided bombs, all the airplanes and bombs, it's all from the US," retired Israeli Major General Yitzhak Brick told a columnist with the Jewish News Syndicate last month. "The minute they turn off the tap, you can't keep fighting. You have no capability...Everyone understands that we can't fight this war without the United States. Period." <https://www.commondreams.org/news/israeli-minister-evil-gazans>

This fact places a heavy responsibility upon the American people to take action to change our government's current

stance. Your passage of this resolution will send a powerful message that will increase the chances that our federal government will take the necessary steps "to save Palestinian and Israeli lives." Maybe I shouldn't speak for others but I know for a fact that your passage of this resolution will bring joy and hope to the Palestinian community here in Harrisonburg, in Virginia, across the US and even in Gaza itself. It is a courageous act of solidarity and love and I cannot thank you enough for doing it.

Sincerely, Michael Snell-Feikema

P.S. The most readable and accessible work on the criterion and evidence that we are witnessing an unfolding genocide in Gaza is the briefing by that name by the Center for Constitutional Rights available here.<https://ccrjustice.org/israel-s-unfolding-crime-genocide-palestinian-people-us-failure-prevent-and-complicity-genocide>

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** [michaelfeikema@gmail.com](mailto:michaelfeikema@gmail.com)

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 3:19 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 3:19pm

**Name:** Paula Stoltzfus

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** RES24-005

**Comment:**

I hope that Harrisonburg City Council will be the first city to adopt this call for a ceasefire in Gaza. It is a call that affirms the care for our common humanity both near and far. It calls out unjust violence and genocide. Let us not only seek the good of the city here but also in Israel/Palestine.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 4:59 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 4:58pm

**Name:** Charles D. ("Dave") Pruett  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:**

Dear Harrisonburg City Council Members:

No one can watch or read about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in Gaza without immense heartbreak.

Agenda item 7.a asks Harrisonburg's City Council to consider a cease-fire resolution for Gaza. The resolution is even-handed and does not attempt to assign blame for the conflict. It simply asks for our city to join dozens of others in calling for a cease-fire.

I strongly support this resolution and ask you to give it your full support as well. Our shared humanity demands some kind of action.

Thank you for your consideration of the proposed cease-fire resolution.

Respectfully yours,  
Charles D. ("Dave") Pruett

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

It is not necessary to contact me, but if you would like to, I can be reached at [c.david.pruett@gmail.com](mailto:c.david.pruett@gmail.com) or 540-246-3087



## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 3:04 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 3:03pm

**Name:** Beth Krall

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Ceasefire resolution, I support a ceasefire resolution for the continued conflict in Gaza. All life is precious and we need an immediate end to loss of life in Israel and Gaza. I also support humanitarian aid to be sent to the displaced people in Gaza as well as hostage release both in Israel and Gaza.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 2:20 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 2:20pm

**Name:** Fatima Rahman

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I'm following what's happening in Gaza: the Palestinian refugees who Israel is deliberately starving as they shelter in overcrowded tents, the injured Palestinian children who've been forced to get amputations without anesthesia, the Palestinian families shot dead by Israeli snipers as they flee hospitals, and the Palestinian boys and men stripped naked in the cold and severely tortured by Israeli soldiers in concentration camps. There have been an untold number of mass graves, field executions, and other horrific war crimes, most of which we do not even know yet due to Israel's telecommunications blackout. And now, Israel has begun its latest genocidal massacre in Rafah to slaughter or forcibly remove the 1.9 million Palestinians sheltering there—directly against the International Court of Justice's orders.

It's undeniable that this is a genocide. I'm horrified that my government has been using my tax dollars to fund Israel's mass killings of 36,000+ Palestinian people, including 14,000+ children. The only way to stop this genocide is a PERMANENT CEASEFIRE NOW. Why have you not taken the absolute bare minimum step to call for a permanent ceasefire, as supported by a 61% majority of the American public?

As your constituent and a supporter of the US Campaign for Palestinian Rights (USCPR), I'm demanding that you stop arming and enabling Israel's massive violence. It's extremely urgent, as Israel kills another Palestinian person every four minutes.

Israel's mass killing of Palestinians, which has gone on for decades from Gaza to Jenin to Jerusalem, must be stopped. And yet, the Biden administration has fanned the flames of genocide, promising to send Israel more weapons and military funding. I will not accept politics-as-usual of words of concern without U.S. policy change. That approach gives Israel a free pass to keep massacring the Palestinian people. Peace is not possible without justice, which begins with an end to Israel's military occupation, theft of native Palestinian land, and attacks on Palestinian lives.

Take action to deescalate today. Call for an immediate, permanent ceasefire and an end to all U.S. complicity in Israel's violence, including ending U.S. military funding to Israel.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 2:27 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 2:26pm

**Name:** Mustafa

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Given the ongoing, indiscriminate violence in Gaza by the Israeli military, including over 12,000 pediatric fatalities, destruction of hospitals, universities, religious buildings, and given reporting from numerous organizations on the ground including Doctors Without Borders and UN agencies documenting systematic destruction of health services and targeting of healthcare workers by the Israeli military, and given the fatal levels of starvation facing Gazans even while aid deliveries are held up at border crossings, I strongly encourage the city council to vote yes to agenda item 7a.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 1:45 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 1:44pm

**Name:** Alexander Pellegrino

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a. Consider adopting a resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in Gaza and Israel

**Comment:**

Yes, yes, and yes. Unequivocally adopt this resolution.

I have loved growing up in Harrisonburg and am proud to have been raised in the Friendly City. This resolution clearly states that our community stands for life, inclusion, and justice. It is absolutely within the purview of city council to adopt this resolution. I would be so so proud to see my city adopt this resolution.

City council prides itself on the number of languages spoken at Harrisonburg Public Schools, the diversity of our community and the values of providing home for people.

This resolution aligns our actions with those values.

The VA delegation and US federal government have been complicit in genocide by not calling for a ceasefire. By adopting this resolution and sending it to them, we take a concrete step to stop the death.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:** 719 Ott Street, Harrisonburg VA 22801

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 11:05 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 11:05am

**Name:** Greg Bowman

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

RE: RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN GAZA AND ISRAEL

I support this resolution by City Council as a legitimate act of local government expressing the will and sentiment of a significant block of its hard-working, community-oriented constituents. City Council--and all residents of Harrisonburg--do well to honor the tragedies and conflicts that impact family members and beloved communities of those who now make Harrisonburg home.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:**

735 Keezletown Road  
Harrisonburg VA 22802

330.853.1604

gmbowman33@gmail.com

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 10:49 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 10:49am

**Name:** Kaitlin Heatwole

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I urge you to support the ceasefire resolution. I visited Israel and Palestine in 2010 and lived in Iraq from 2014 to 2017, and I know first hand the humanitarian catastrophe that come from destruction of infrastructure, bombing civilian areas, and the desperate food, medical, sanitation, and shelter needs that people face.

The beauty of our democracy is that cities can make these resolutions, adding the voices of their individual residents to those of others across the nation into a demand that congress and the president not act against the will of the United States people. This is bottom-up change at its best, and I hope that Harrisonburg's city council can be a leader for the state of Virginia in this action.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 9:45 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 9:45am

**Name:** Krista Showalter Ehst  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.  
**Comment:**

Dear Council Members,

I'm writing ahead of Tuesday's meeting to indicate strong support for the 'Resolution Calling for an Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza and Israel.' As a local pastor, my faith compels me to speak out against the relentless violence and loss of life in Gaza--a violence that only makes things worse for both Israelis and Palestinians. Though the war is far away from our city, the resolution clearly and persuasively outlines why Harrisonburg City has reason to call for a ceasefire. I hope and pray that the Council can lead out in modeling the role that our cities have in advocating for peace in our both communities and our inter-connected world.

Thank you in advance for discerning and voting on this dire matter.

Sincerely,

Pastor Krista Showalter Ehst

**Contact:** No  
**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 11:37 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 11:36am

**Name:** Corey Donaldson

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7A

**Comment:**

I'm calling on city council to pass a resolution of cease fire for the ongoing genocide in the Gaza strip. A message needs to be sent to the state and federal level that we as citizens will not continue to be complicit in the funding of this genocide.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 11:59 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 11:58am

**Name:** Charlotte Louise Shristi

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a.

**Comment:**

I strongly support the adoption of the "RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE CEASE-FIRE IN GAZA AND ISRAEL" that Harrisonburg City Council is considering. As a welcoming, multi-cultural community it is vital that we stand against injustice and apartheid where we see it, and especially when our tax dollars and international policies have supported oppression, occupation and war against the people of Palestine. Our city adopting such a resolution would be a powerful voice in the national conversation. Thank you for your public service and for considering this action.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** charlotteshristi@gmail.com

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 12:04 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 12:03pm

**Name:** Carol Snell-Feikema

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I am overjoyed that Harrisonburg City Council is responding to the ongoing massacre in Gaza by putting this ceasefire resolution on the agenda. I am praying urgently for each of you to vote "yes", allowing our beloved Friendly City to join over 70 other towns and cities across the United States, in calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. All of you on the Council have a history of responding to the cry of the oppressed. I am extremely thankful for everything you have each done to respond to human suffering. I am praying that you will again hear that cry and act, as you have done so many times in the past and continue to do in the present.

As you all know, Gaza is suffering—more than 29,000 dead; 12,600 of them children. Innocent children! I awake in the night and pray for Gaza. But I want to speak out as loudly as I can to stop the non-ending massacre. I literally can't believe it's happening and that no one is stopping it. In fact, the planes that drop the bombs are made in the United States with my tax dollars, the bombs dropped on civilian populations—made in the USA with our tax dollars. How to stop this madness, do all we can...

If more voices had been raised, the genocide of the Jewish people—6 Million Jews!!! + invalids, Jehovah's Witnesses, gays...maybe, just maybe it could have been stopped. This is humanly done evil. It is not a hurricane, an earthquake or a tornado. It is humanly done, and it can be humanly stopped.

So we all need to raise our voice and cry out for ceasefire, for humanitarian aid, for release of hostages and political prisoners. My cry is a start, but it is not enough. Harrisonburg can join the cry to stop the madness—to use our tax dollars for Harrisonburg needs instead of bombs that rain death on the children and families of Gaza. I ask you, as our representatives on the City Council, to call for a ceasefire, to stop the massacre. Join not only Minneapolis, Chicago and Detroit, but Iowa City (another small college town) and Atlanta, Saint Louis, MO, Carrboro, NC (other cities in the South). There are some 70 cities now calling out for ceasefire.

The situation is urgent. Every day another 250 innocent people die a needless, humanly caused death, a death caused by my tax dollars, a death we can stop from happening. It is our moral obligation.

**Contact:**

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, February 26, 2024 1:00 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Monday, February 26, 2024 - 12:59pm

**Name:** Kimberly Copeland

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Thank you for taking time to consider a ceasefire resolution for Israel/Gaza at this council meeting. As a member of a local peace church, Immanuel Mennonite, I strongly support Harrisonburg using its political voice to call for peace. The news from Israel and Gaza has been so devastating, and war is a monster that will never create the security that both Palestinians and Israelis deserve. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues to grow as 2 millions folks are trapped in a small area without escape.

I believe that you can create a call for ceasefire resolution that models unity and reconciliation across lines of division. As a city we can resist both anti-semitism and islamaphobia in all its forms. We can choose the rigorous path of just peace and disavow violence as a solution.

Thank you for your work on this important issue.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:40 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:39am

**Name:** Bayan Hamdan Dames

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I would like to commend everyone for all your efforts on the Palestinian humanitarian issue we really appreciate your work.

And I really would love to see the resolution signed by our city, as every voice has affects, even if this did not change votes in the federal government for calling for a ceasefire, it will mean so much for us that our city council members heard us so the people knowing we pick and vote for really care about us and they welcome us in this nice friendly city. We need to see this resolution signed from our city thank you.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 4:27 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 4:27am

**Name:** John Clem

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:** I encourage the City Council to adopt a ceasefire resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 5:29 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 5:29am

**Name:** Andrew Payton

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I strongly support the ceasefire resolution as written and thank the City Council for taking a position on an emotionally-fraught issue out of typical scope of its deliberations. In doing so, the Council sides itself with life, with justice, and with the difficult endeavor of peace.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 6:35 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 6:34am

**Name:** Rick Yoder

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I urge city council to pass without delay the cease fire resolution so the killing in Gaza and Israel stops, and all hostages are released.

Thank you.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:20 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:20am

**Name:** Herb Myers

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Please, call for a cease fire in Gaza so that the killing and destruction may cease. We want peace for all people of Palestine.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:31 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:31am

**Name:** Mark Keller

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7

**Comment:**

I believe you would represent our community values well by passing item #7 regarding violence in Gaza using our tax paid eaons and our national blessing. We need to say it is not right to kill children.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** mkeller123@gmail.com

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 7:39 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 7:39am

**Name:** Martha Sider

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I urge the members of the Harrisonburg City Council to adopt the proposed ceasefire resolution. The suffering of Israelis and Palestinians is unconscionable. A ceasefire is crucial in setting the stage for further negotiations and efforts to deescalate tensions in the region. Our federal government needs to know there are many of us who support a ceasefire.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:15 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 8:14am

**Name:** Cristina Williams

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Please vote to be the first city in Virginia to pass a ceasefire resolution. We cannot support violence and genocide with our money and weapons and say that we are on the side of liberty and justice.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 8:18 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 8:17am

**Name:** Dan Beachy

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

Please pass this resolution for a ceasefire in Gaza. This is absolutely necessary to be able find a way of peace in the region.

Thank you for your work on the many things you do for Harrisonburg.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:06 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:06am

**Name:** Kelsey Brubaker

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

Resolution for a ceasefire is imperative. It is a first step in our duty to call for peace and reject oppression. May we feel proud of our city for standing up for what is right and continue to take steps towards calling for peace.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:12 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:12am

**Name:** Lareta Finger

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7 a)

**Comment:**

I am very pleased that you are considering the request that Harrisonburg City joins the many other cities calling for a CEASEFIRE from the carnage in Gaza.

Please consider this! I was part of the singing group at City Hall this past Tuesday and was pleased with the turnout and support.

The suffering is beyond what I can imagine--poured out on helpless infants, children, and adults who have nothing to do with Hamas.

I don't know how to make the print larger. Clicking the box above doesn't work.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:14 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:14am

**Name:** Kathleen W. Kurtz

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I strongly support this resolution and call on you as my representatives to endorse it as well. It will help make our community stronger as well as encourage the crucial necessity of a ceasefire for the good of both Palestinians and Israelis.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 9:21 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 9:20am

**Name:** Joan Kulp

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I would strongly encourage you to pass the resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza. I do not support violence on either side in the Israeli/Gaza conflict, but the suffering of the innocent victims is unbelievable and should be stopped. Thank you for putting this to our elected representatives by passing this resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



## Pamela S. Ulmer

---

**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 10:31 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 10:30am

**Name:** Kathleen Temple  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7 . a  
**Comment:**

To the Harrisonburg City Council,

I am a member of the local Mennonite Action group. As a Mennonite who has been living here in the Harrisonburg area for many years, I feel very proud of the growing movement among those in our Christian Mennonite faith communities to advocate for an immediate and permanent ceasefire in Palestine. We want the children and families of Palestine as well as Israeli children and families to be able to live and to heal. I am also part of Peace Praxis- Shenandoah Valley Anti-War Coalition and other local organizations for peace.

A permanent ceasefire in Palestine cannot come too soon! Cities all around the country are standing in solidarity with Gaza and broader Palestinian communities against the genocide and for justice in Palestine. It will be wonderful for Harrisonburg to join the CITIES for peace and healing!

Sincerely, Kathleen Temple

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:**

I would love to be contacted by Harrisonburg City staff, yes. The best way to reach me is by email:

KathleenTempleTailor@gmail.com

Thank you!

-Kathleen

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 11:07 AM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 11:07am

**Name:** Austin Headrick

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

I want to express my gratitude and support for the City Council's Ceasefire resolution. I hope to see this resolution passed in the City Council. As the resolution states, the violence taking place in Gaza and Israel is deeply important and concerning to so many of us living in Harrisonburg. I feel proud to be a resident living in a city that prides ourselves in being a City for All. Thank you!

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** email: austinheadrick@gmail.com

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:03 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:02pm

**Name:** WAYNE DAVID KURTZ

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I strongly support and urge the council the pass at this meeting the resolution for a cease fire in Gaza. The current actions of Israel in Gaza are creating a situation in which living conditions for those who survive are beyond imagining. Bombing and killing is not the solution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:07 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:06pm

**Name:** Farah Al-Naser

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a

**Comment:**

As a student at JMU it's been difficult to attend classes and worry about something as small and insignificant as an exam, while I know there are kids starving, injured, dying, have no living family members in Palestine. I'm very privileged to be in a position to only have to watch a 1 minute clip of their suffering, and I could go back to my normal life. Not only me but everyone watching who is sitting in a warm home. It's crucial for our city council to recognize the significance of passing a ceasefire resolution in Palestine for both our city and the global community. Beyond the geopolitical implications, such a resolution aligns with our commitment to peace, justice, and humanitarian principles at the local level. By advocating for a ceasefire, we demonstrate solidarity with innocent civilians caught in the crossfire and uphold our responsibility to promote stability and security worldwide. Moreover, taking a stand for peace in Palestine fosters a sense of unity and compassion within our own community, showing that we prioritize human rights and diplomacy over violence and conflict. Just as smaller-scale government initiatives can lead to broader systemic change, our support for peace at the local level can contribute to positive shifts on a larger scale. Let us lead by example and urge for an immediate cessation of hostilities for the greater good of all involved.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** Farahalnaser17@yahoo.com

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:30 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:30pm

**Name:** Earl Martin  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** Gaza Ceasefire Resolution

**Comment:**  
Dear Council Members

I believe the sentiment is strong within Harrisonburg for a ceasefire to be carried out in Palestine and Israel. For the sake of the children of Gaza who are hungry and fearful, if still alive, for the sake of the Israeli hostages still being held, it is so imperative that there be a cessation of the killing. I believe a City Council resolution to that effect would be one helpful step in that direction.

With gratitude for your service, Earl Martin

**Contact:**  
**Contact Info:**  
Earl Martin

email: patearl@aol.com

phone: 540-908-1480

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:40 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:39pm

**Name:** Holly Herr Stravers  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7.a  
**Comment:**

Dear Members of City Council,

I am writing to voice my full and heartfelt support for the Resolution calling for an Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza and Israel. This brutal and indiscriminate destruction of life, land, property and livelihood is being fought with U.S. weapons and funded by U.S. taxpayers. Many citizens of Harrisonburg are directly affected and traumatized daily by this vicious and relentless violence. We all have our civic roles and areas of expertise but this is a time that calls for all voices to shout in unison to stop the violence, to stand up for humanitarian rights, and to tell our government we are adamantly opposed to the continuation of this war.

You are our local elected officials. If your voice does not matter in issues of morality and human rights, in real and present questions of life and death, then how can we ever believe that our individual voices matter? With awareness comes responsibility. If we do not speak out against the violence and oppression perpetuated by our government we are complicit in these forces of destruction. This responsibility starts with the individual and moves through all levels of our collective community, through all levels of government. One can always justify reasons to exempt oneself from speaking out against violence and injustice. This is why these forces are so powerful in our nation and in our world. I urge you to speak out - for us, for yourselves, for our country, for the people of Gaza, for the people of Israel. Vote YES for the Immediate Ceasefire in Gaza and in Israel.

Sincerely,

Holly Herr Stravers

**Contact:**  
**Contact Info:**

**Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 12:52 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 12:52pm

**Name:** John Jantzen

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7 .a

**Comment:** Ceasefire now! I'm in support of the resolution.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**

## Pamela S. Ulmer

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 1:06 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 1:06pm

**Name:** Ilse Ackerman

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I'm so thrilled that the Friendly City is leading the way to pass the first ceasefire resolution in Virginia. Thank you each for your leadership on this. This is the momentum we need to build to a ceasefire at the national level, while showing care for our neighbors at the local level.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**



## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 2:00 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

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**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 2:00pm

**Name:** Dorothy Jean Weaver  
**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council  
**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024  
**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I strongly support the resolution submitted to the City Council calling for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the release of hostages and prisoners, and the resumption of humanitarian aid to Gaza. I am a Harrisonburg resident and a Virginia voter. And I have witnessed with horror and virtual disbelief the violence that has taken place both in Israel (by Hamas) and in Gaza (by the Israeli Defense Forces) on and since October 7. More than 30,000 lives have been violently taken over the past months, the huge majority of them women and children. Something like half the population of Harrisonburg has been viciously destroyed by actors on both sides of this vicious conflict. I grieve deeply for all those whose lives, whose families, and whose very living spaces have been destroyed over past months.

The only way to stop this massive bloodshed and start down the path towards a safe, peaceful, and productive future for all parties involved starts with an immediate, complete, and permanent ceasefire by Hamas and the IDF, the return of all hostages and all political prisoners, and the immediate restoration of crucial humanitarian aid to the people of Gaza. I was a participant in the Mennonite Action protest held in front of City Hall this past Tuesday. I sang for ceasefire then. And I will continue to sing for ceasefire until this is enacted by Hamas and the IDF. I urge you strongly to support this resolution in front of City Council. And I will fully support your actions as you take this step--a step already taken by numerous cities, large and small, across the US--to sign this resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. Thank you for your attention to my appeal.

**Contact:** Yes

**Contact Info:** (540) 405-9242

## **Pamela S. Ulmer**

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**From:** HarrisonburgVA.gov via HarrisonburgVA.gov <noreply@harrisonburgva.gov>  
**Sent:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 2:09 PM  
**To:** Pamela S. Ulmer  
**Subject:** Form submission from: Agenda Comment Form

**WARNING: External email. Be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments.**

**Submitted on:** Saturday, February 24, 2024 - 2:09pm

**Name:** Aidan Yoder

**Type of Meeting:** Harrisonburg City Council

**Date of Meeting:** Tue, 02/27/2024

**Agenda Item Number:** 7a

**Comment:**

I would like to voice my support for the ceasefire resolution. We need to be advocating to end the gross loss of life in Israel and Palestine and make sure that the offensive in Gaza is ended and the hostages are returned.

**Contact:** No

**Contact Info:**