

CITY OF NEW BEDFORD

IN CITY COUNCIL

November 16, 2022

RESOLUTION HONORING TIFERETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

WHEREAS, Tifereth Israel Congregation was founded in 1922 and originally led by Rabbi Nachman Arnoff, the first of several long serving Rabbis who worked to minister to the spiritual needs of the newly immigrated Jewish community in the City of New Bedford, many of whom left Eastern Europe looking for a better life and the promise of the American Dream; and

WHEREAS, This vibrant Jewish community tells the true story of the immigrant experience here in our City, a story of family, hard work, devotion, dedication, heartache and success and a strong belief in the American Dream and an unflinching love of God; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Tifereth Israel Congregation have become integral threads in the fabric of our City's tapestry, having proudly defended the United States of America through their service in the armed forces during World War I, World War II, the Korean Conflict, the Vietnam War, the Gulf War and are continuing to serve in various branches of the military today; contributed to the civic and economic advancement of the City of New Bedford by serving in various elected and appointed capacities in the City of New Bedford and as professionals serving the needs of the greater New Bedford community as lawyers, doctors, and proprietors of many local successful businesses; and

WHEREAS, The original temple was located on South Sixth Street for over forty years until members of the Tifereth Israel Congregation purchased the land on the corner of Brownell Avenue and Hawthorn Street in the historic whaling section of our City, built and dedicated in 1966 the beautiful synagogue that we know today; and

WHEREAS, Currently led by Rabbi Raphael Kanter, who is serving in his 26th year as the Synagogue's spiritual leader, the Tifereth Israel Congregation has remained a strong and accepting religious community, leading by example and proudly showcasing customs and traditions that keep the local Jewish community flourishing and strengthen the Congregation's ties to the local community and Judaism; and

WHEREAS, The Tifereth Israel Congregation has a reputation of being a warm and friendly place to gather and worship; offers several activities that bring together the community of all ages, to include the Tifereth Israel Minyan Breakfast Club, the United Synagogue Youth Club and for over 70 years the Tifereth Israel Sisterhood Women's League, all with the mission of keeping the local Jewish community flourishing, building on Jewish rituals, values and customs, and strengthening connections to Judaism both locally and regionally; and

WHEREAS, Education and communication are of the highest priority of the Tifereth Israel Congregation in effort to promote the positive traditions of the Jewish community, to instill a love of God, knowledge and respect for oneself and others, and encourage an understanding of Jewish traditions; the Tifereth Israel Congregation sponsors the Bernard H. Ziskind School of Judaism – offering classes for children in kindergarten through tenth grade, an Adult Education Program in bible study, Hebrew classes, the yearly Shabbaton weekend, the Ziskind Memorial Lecture series along with publication of the weekly Shabbat Shalom newsletter and quarterly Tifereth Israelight community newsletter; and

WHEREAS, Over the weekend of May 20, 2022 through May 22, 2022, Tifereth Israel Congregation celebrated the 100th Anniversary of its founding, with the theme, "From Generation to Generation", which brought together the Jewish community and shared with the residents of the City the Tifereth Israel Congregation's experience with several religious and cultural events showcasing Jewish foods, music, traditions and religious services:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the New Bedford City Council hereby joins with the entire Citizenry of New Bedford to thank the **TIFERETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION** for their civic, economic, social and cultural contributions to the City of New Bedford and to congratulate and honor the **TIFERETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION** on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary Celebration.

Offered by:

Scott J. Lima, Councillor Ward Five

Linda M. Morad, Councillor at Large

Ryan J. Pereira, Councillor Ward Six

Brad Markey, Councillor Ward One

Brian K. Gomes, Councillor at Large

Maria E. Giesta, Councillor Ward Two

Hugh C. Dunn, Councillor Ward Three

Naomi R.A. Carney, Councillor at Large

Shane A. Burgo, Councillor at Large

Derek Baptiste, Councillor Ward Four

Ian Abreu, Councillor at Large