

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-3

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF WEST
READING, COUNTY OF BERKS, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA,
SUPPORTING DISASTER RELIEF FUND AND CRISIS INTERVENTION**

WHEREAS, on Friday, March 24, 2023, an explosion occurred at 55 S. 2nd Avenue, West Reading, Berks County, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, the disaster has endangered the public health, safety and welfare and adversely impacted the lives our Borough residents as well as many others who work in the Borough of West Reading (“Borough”); and

WHEREAS, Borough Council of the Borough of West Reading (“Borough Council”) seeks to assist those affected by this unfortunate disaster by helping them to find resources to assist in supporting their physical, mental and economic recovery following the disaster; and

WHEREAS, the County of Berks and West Side Regional Emergency Management Agency have provided a referral destination to Holcomb Crisis Intervention of Berks County, located at 401 Buttonwood Street, West Reading, PA 19611 for 24/7 crisis management; and

WHEREAS, the County of Berks and the United Way of Berks County have provided the 211 service to connect the community to essential services, including housing, family resources, food, and health; and

WHEREAS, the BCCF and the United Way of Berks County have co-sponsored a disaster relief fund to raise money to assist those who have been adversely impacted by this disaster; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of West Reading will work with and provide support to the County of Berks, West Side Regional Emergency Management Agency, the Berks County Community Foundation (BCCF), and United Way of Berks County to assist those in need as a result of this disaster; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council officially supports the use of Holcomb Crisis Intervention of Berks County and 211 as the provided options for residents, workers, and others affected to receive aid; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of the Borough hereby endorses the disaster relief fund co-sponsored by the BCCF and United Way of Berks County, which will provide support for the needs of individuals and families affected by this disaster through the award of (in order of priority):

1. Grants to organizations providing support to the families of individuals who lost their lives in the explosion for immediate financial losses

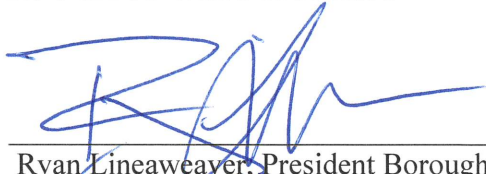
2. Grants to organizations providing support to individuals displaced from their homes as a result of the explosion

3. Grants to organizations providing support to individuals displaced from employment as a result of the explosion

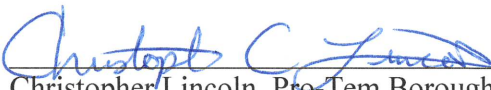
4. Support to the Borough of West Reading for planning and/or implementation of historical commemoration of the explosion (including, but not limited to creation of a memorial to those lost)

Adopted at a duly constituted meeting of Borough Council this 25th day of March, 2023.

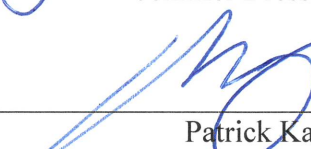
BOROUGH OF WEST READING

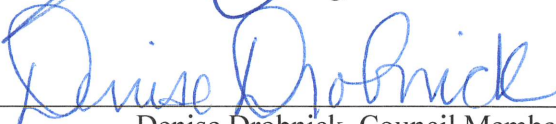
By: 
Ryan Lineaweaver, President Borough Council

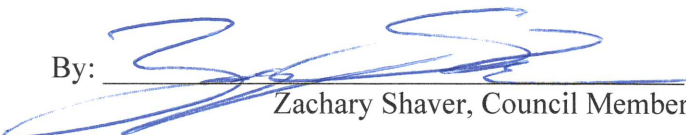
By: 
Philip Wert, Vice President Borough Council

By: 
Christopher Lincoln, Pro-Tem Borough Council

By: 
Jennifer Bressler, Council Member

By: 
Patrick Kaag, Council Member

By: 
Denise Drobnick, Council Member

By: 
Zachary Shaver, Council Member