

## **Bellingham Meeting Calls for Ceasefire, Aid to Civilians in Gaza**

During our Meeting for Worship for Business Sunday, December 9, 2023, Bellingham Friends found unity to sign onto a petition circulated by Whatcom Families for Justice, an interfaith group calling for a ceasefire, a restoration of humanitarian aid, and the return of hostages and prisoners to their families.

At the Bellingham City Council meeting the next night, the council indeed approved such a resolution, noting that "the City of Bellingham believes in and advocates for the self-determination of all people, regardless of religion, races, or nationality ... affirms that all human life is precious ... [and] condemns racism in any form." The resolution also notes that "the United States Government holds immense diplomatic power to engage all parties directly involved in this conflict to end the current violence, address the root causes of this crisis and develop solutions that create a clear pathway to peace and justice."