# Township of Verona

# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military; and

**WHEREAS**, originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971; and

**WHEREAS**, cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades each year, often incorporating military personnel and members of veterans' organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. Some people wear a red poppy in remembrance of those fallen in war — a tradition that began with "In Flanders Field," a World War I poem by Lieutenant Colonel John McCrae, who served as a brigade surgeon for an Allied artillery unit; and

**WHEREAS**, on a less somber note, many people take weekend trips or gather with family and friends on the holiday, perhaps because Memorial Day weekend — the long weekend comprising the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day and Memorial Day itself — unofficially marks the beginning of summer; and

**WHEREAS**, on this Memorial Day weekend, during this unprecedented time where, as a community, we must uphold and adhere to social distancing in order to continue to flatten the curve and help stop the spread of COVID-19, let us take a moment to reflect and give thanks to those brave souls who died while serving in the United States military, ensuring the endowment of our unalienable Rights of Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** the American flag should be hung at half-staff until noon on Memorial Day, then raised to the top of the staff. And since 2000, when the U.S. Congress passed legislation, all Americans are encouraged to pause for a National Moment of Remembrance at 3 p.m. local time.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that I, Jack McEvoy, Mayor of the Township of Verona in do hereby recognize May 25, 2020 as Memorial Day and honor those brave heroes who died while service our country in the United States Military.

JACK McEVOY
Mayor