

TOWN OF  
OFFICE OF SELECTMEN



NORFOLK  
NORFOLK - CONNECTICUT  
06058

**Resolution**

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she is the duly elected, qualified and acting Clerk of the Town of Norfolk which municipality is organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut (the "Municipality"). The undersigned further certifies that the following is a true and accurate copy of a resolution adopted at a meeting of the Board of Selectmen of the Municipality duly called and held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August, 2022 at which meeting a quorum was present and voting throughout.

**WHEREAS**, Sharon Hospital is a cornerstone of healthcare for our community, and the Labor and Delivery service is the entry point for many families in its catchment area. It is well established that community hospitals without maternity units decline;

**WHEREAS**, long and uncertain travel for women in labor is neither safe nor sustainable. Not only young families but everyone involved in local businesses and schools will suffer if the hospital discontinues its maternity service, and since the community looks forward to an increase of young families over time, it is essential that Sharon Hospital preserve its Labor and Delivery service;

**WHEREAS**, maintaining the hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) is critical for the health and wellbeing of our citizens, and we must retain ICU expertise to treat inevitable cases of complicated medical and surgical patients. By maintaining ICU patient care at our local hospital, close to patients' support systems, the added stress of travel will be avoided. Additionally, it is likely that primary care physicians may reconsider affiliation with a hospital lacking an ICU equipped and staffed with the requisite expertise. Our area could face a further decrease in primary care physicians, which in turn could lead to an exit of citizens of all ages, including retirees, the very demographic that features in Nuvance's plan to reconfigure Sharon Hospital's services;

**WHEREAS**, the maintenance of after-hour surgery services is vital to our citizens because accidents and illness do not always happen between 8 am and 5 pm. It is time for Connecticut to support healthcare in the rural communities.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Norfolk Board of Selectmen does hereby support maintaining Sharon Hospital as a full-service community hospital;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that we ask our State Legislators, our Governor and Congressional members to do everything within their power to create the changes needed to ensure the well-being of the rural communities of Connecticut by safeguarding equal access to healthcare no matter where they live.

Given under my hand as First Selectmen of the Town of Norfolk this 11<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2022.

Signature:

Matthew T. Riiska, First Selectman