

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
PROCLAMATION**

***WHEREAS**, Ramadan is the holiest month of the Islamic calendar and the Borough of Watchung wishes to recognize the extensive civil, social and religious contributions made by the Muslim Community; and*

***WHEREAS**, Ramadan lasts 29 to 30 days based on the timing of the astronomical new moon; and*

***WHEREAS**, Muslims around the world observe the month by fasting each day from sunrise to sunset; and*

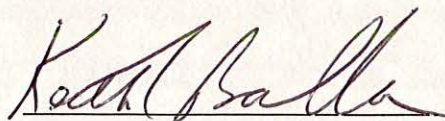
***WHEREAS**, Ramadan is regarded as a time for spiritual reflection, increased awareness, and giving to the global poor, sick, and hungry, and a bridging of differences between people over a shared commitment to faith; and*

***WHEREAS**, in 2020 and 2021, COVID-19 made it challenging to celebrate Ramadan without all of the customary gatherings and formalities, however the holy month was still full of reflection, compassion, and unity; and*

***WHEREAS**, the acts of kindness and selflessness shown by the Muslim community continue to bring hope to all; and*

***WHEREAS**, one of the Borough's greatest strengths is its diversity and is proud to be home to a Muslim population; and*

***NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Keith S. Balla, do hereby recognize **RAMADAN**, which began the evening of Monday, April 12, 2021 and is expected to end at sundown on Wednesday, May 12, 2021, in our **BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our residents to become more knowledgeable about the contributions made by Muslim Americans.*


Keith S. Balla, Mayor
Date: April 22, 2021

