

PROCLAMATION 25-004

***RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FIRST NAVAL BATTLE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN
MACHIAS, MAINE ON JUNE 12, 1775***

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Council of the Town of Scarborough, Maine in Town Council assembled that,

WHEREAS, in 1762, due to scarcity of hay arising from fires and droughts, Isaiah Foster, Isaac Larrabee, and others from Scarborough visited a place in search of grass, finding a great opportunity of it in the marshes and an opportunity for sawmills on the river there, in what later was settled as Machias; and,

WHEREAS, 80 persons, of whom no less than 54 were from Scarborough, petitioned the General Court for a grant of this vicinity settlement, which was allowed in 1770; and,

WHEREAS, the first naval battle of the American Revolution was the Battle of Machias. This battle, which occurred after townspeople refused to provide the British with lumber for barracks, led to the capture of the armed schooner *HMS Margareta* by settlers under Captain Jeremiah O'Brien and Captain Benjamin Foster, who was originally from Scarborough; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Scarborough does hereby honor the courageous actions of the residents of Scarborough and Machias, whose collective efforts at the *Battle of the Margareta* exemplify the spirit of unity and resistance that ignited the flame of liberty in our nation. Their shared commitment to freedom and self-governance serves as a lasting legacy, reminding us of the enduring bond between our communities and the sacrifices made for the cause of independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the citizens of Scarborough are encouraged to reflect upon this pivotal moment in history and to participate in commemorative events marking the 250th Anniversary of the *Battle of the Margareta*, thereby honoring the shared heritage and enduring spirit of our forebears.

Signed and dated this 4th day of June, 2025, on behalf of the Town Council and the Town Manager of Scarborough, Maine.

Signed by:

/s/ April V. Sither
Council Chair

Attested by:

/s/ Yolande P. Justice
Clerk to the Council