



**Saturday November 25, 2023**  
**Proclamation**  
**Shop Small Business Saturday in Valatie**

**Whereas**, the government of the Village of Valatie, NY, celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community, and to the health and sustainability of the local, regional, and national economy; and

**Whereas**, according to the United States Small Business Administration, there are more than 33 million small businesses in the United States; they represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, and were responsible for more than 70% of net new jobs created in the two decades between 2000-2019; and

**Whereas**, since 2020, a record number of Americans started nearly 8.5 million new businesses – higher than any similar period on record; and generate 46 percent of private gross domestic product; and

**Whereas**, projected total reported spending among U.S. consumers who shopped at independent retailers and restaurants on Small Business Saturday in 2022 spent an estimated \$ 17.9 billion dollars; and 82% of these shoppers shopped in-person, in-store that day; and

**Whereas**, Small Businesses employ nearly 60 million workers, more than one-third of the U.S. labor force. 88% of U.S. consumers feel a personal commitment to support small businesses, and 92% of small business owners pivoted the way they operated to remain open during the pandemic; and

**Whereas**, 90 percent of consumers in the United States agree that Small Businesses contribute positively to the local community by supplying jobs and generating tax revenue; and

**Whereas**, recognizing the value and importance of Valatie's local small businesses in preserving the uniqueness of our historic village gives us a sense of place; and

**Whereas**, the Valatie Economic Redevelopment Association and the Village of Valatie, New York support our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy and preserve our community; and

**Whereas**, advocacy groups as well as public and private organizations across the country have endorsed the Saturday after Thanksgiving as '*Small Business Saturday*'.

**Now, Therefore**, I, Mayor Frank Bevens, Mayor of the Village of Valatie, New York do hereby proclaim, November 25, 2023, as:

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY in Valatie**

**And** urge the residents of our community, and communities across the country, to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

**Mayor Frank Bevens**  
November, 2023

