

City of Kingsport Proclamation

Whereas, the government of Kingsport, Tennessee, celebrates our local small businesses and the contributions they make to our local economy and community; and,

Whereas, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration, there are 33.2 million small businesses in the United States: small businesses represent 99.7% of firms with paid employees, small businesses are responsible for 62.7% of net new jobs created since 1995, and small businesses employ 46.4% of the employees in the private sector in the United States; and,

Whereas, 68 cents of every dollar spent at a small business in the United States stays in the local community and every dollar spent at small businesses creates an additional 48 cents in local business activity as a result of employees and local businesses purchasing local goods and services; and,

Whereas, in 2023, the reported projected spending in the U.S. from those who shopped at small businesses on Small Business Saturday was around \$17 billion (*per US SBA*); and,

Whereas, Kingsport supports our local businesses that create jobs, boost our local economy, and preserve our communities; and,

Whereas, the Kingsport Chamber Small Business Programs (*through the TSBDC affiliation*) has served more than 450 unique clients this year, helped create 49 jobs, helped start 22 new businesses, and created over \$8.4 million in capital infusion; 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, Paul W. Montgomery, Mayor of the City of Kingsport, and on behalf of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen, would like to proclaim November 30, 2024 as

Small Business Saturday

in Kingsport and urge the residents of our community to support small businesses and merchants on Small Business Saturday and throughout the year.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Kingsport, Tennessee, to be affixed this the 19th day of November, in the year two thousand twenty-four.

Paul W. Montgomery, Mayor