Resolution declaring the second Monday of October as “Indigenous Peoples’ Day” in Stoughton

Whereas, Stoughton was founded in the region known to the Ho-Chunk people as Teejop, encompassing the four major lakes in what is now the Madison area,

Whereas, Ho-Chunk people lived, farmed, and buried their relatives all around what is now known as Lake Kegonsa,

Whereas, thousands of miners illegally entered Ho-Chunk lands to mine lead ore as the United States expanded westward,

Whereas, the United States took possession of all Ho-Chunk lands south of the Wisconsin river in an 1832 treaty with the threat of military force behind it, displacing the Ho-Chunk people to a series of reservations,

Whereas, many Ho-Chunk people resisted several rounds of removals for decades, returning to their homeland and maintaining a constant presence to this day,

Whereas, Stoughton was founded in the Teejop region 15 years after this treaty,

Whereas, the oppression and colonization of native peoples continues in this country to this day through actions such as oil pipeline construction, uranium extraction, and refusal to honor treaties,

Whereas, our country’s continued celebration of Columbus Day on this date is an act of mythmaking that celebrates a man who killed and enslaved indigenous peoples of the Caribbean, and who never reached the land that would become the United States,

Now, therefore be it resolved, that the Common Council of the city of Stoughton does hereby affirm and proclaim that the second Monday of October shall be known as Indigenous Peoples’ Day.

(attach supporting materials, maybe work them into the text? How to do this?)

HO CHUNK PRESENCE NEAR STOUGHTON.docx