

WHEREAS, in 1973, the year the City of Palm Desert was incorporated, Birgit and Poul Moller founded Moller's Garden Center, which has flourished for more than five decades as a beloved local landmark and cornerstone of the community's landscape, beauty, and civic pride; and

WHEREAS, born in Denmark, Poul Moller came to the United States in the mid-1950s through a work exchange program, determined to build a new life in a land of opportunity; and

WHEREAS, a proud American by choice and conviction, Poul Moller embraced his adopted country wholeheartedly and raised his family to cherish its values, instilling in them the belief that hard work, humility, and perseverance are the truest expressions of patriotism; and

WHEREAS, upon settling in the Coachella Valley, Poul often said that he had lived in the coldest part of the world and wanted to live in the warmest—a decision that led him to Palm Desert, where his vision and work ethic helped transform the once-sparse desert landscape into a thriving community; and

WHEREAS, through vision, determination, and craftsmanship, Poul transformed his early irrigation and landscaping work into Moller's Garden Center, a place that would supply and beautify countless local developments, including Marrakesh, Desert Horizons, and many of the Coachella Valley's signature neighborhoods and civic spaces; and

WHEREAS, Moller's Garden Center grew beyond a business into a gathering place where generations of residents found not only plants and design inspiration, but also connection, conversation, and community; and

WHEREAS, alongside Poul, Birgit Moller played an active role in the civic life of Palm Desert, contributing her time and leadership to the College of the Desert Foundation, the Boys & Girls Clubs of the Coachella Valley, and numerous community organizations, serving with the same grace, determination, and community spirit that defined their shared success; and

WHEREAS, together, Birgit and Poul Moller exemplified the spirit of community service and quiet generosity that has long defined Palm Desert's character, with their family enterprise continuing to shape the City's identity and beauty; and

WHEREAS, their children and grandchildren now carry forward the Mollers' enduring legacy of integrity, service, and dedication to the community they helped to build, ensuring that Palm Desert's growth remains rooted in the values they lived by; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that I, Jan C. Hanik, Mayor of the City of Palm Desert, and the entire City Council of the City of Palm Desert hereby honors Birgit and Poul Moller, founders of Moller's Garden Center, for their lasting contributions to the beauty, vitality, and heritage of Palm Desert, and celebrates the life and legacy of Poul Moller, whose love of this City and pride in being an American will forever remain rooted in the spirit of Palm Desert.

Honoring Birgit and Poul Moller

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Palm Desert, California, to be affixed this 13th day of November 2025.

