



CITY COUNCIL ACTION FORM

DEPARTMENT	PRESENTED BY	DATE
Administration	Drew Nelson - City Administrator	January 3, 2023

ITEM

Resolution 2023-02 – Amending and Readopting a Civility Invocation

BACKGROUND

During 2022, the City Council requested changes to its Civility Invocation to include language supporting equality for women and an individual's right to their own reproductive health choices. The original Civility Invocation was drafted and approved by the City Council in 2020, and has been updated since its original incarnation. The City reached out to members of the community that provided the language for the current Civility Invocation, and those community members provided amended language to promote the City Council's vision as follows:

"We affirm our support for women's rights, including equal pay, equal treatment under the law and in the workplace, and the right to determine choices that impact the direction and personal values of one's life, including all individuals' reproductive health choices."

The Civility Invocation has been updated and attached to this memo for the City Council's review and acceptance.

FISCAL NOTE

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the City Council approve Resolution 2023-02 to amend and readopt the City's Civility Invocation to include support for women's rights and all individuals' rights for reproductive health choices.

SUGGESTED MOTION

A City Councilmember should state, "I move to approve Resolution 2023-02 to amend and readopt the City's Civility Invocation", followed by a second and a roll call vote.

CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO
RESOLUTION 2023-02
(Series of 2023)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO,
AMENDING AND READOPTING A CIVILITY INVOCATION**

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council approved Resolution 2020-10, adopting a Civility Invocation; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council approved Resolution 2020-32, adopting a revised Civility Invocation that proclaims the City as a hate-free zone and celebrates diversity; and

WHEREAS, citizens of the City of Salida have approached the City Council numerous times to encourage engaging in civil discourse necessary for a thriving community; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council desires to conduct its business and governance with civility towards participants in its regular meetings and to provide an example of conduct that supports engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council encourages lively and passionate debate that provokes thoughtful and inclusive decision-making, without actions or words that limit or discourage participation; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council desires to officially confirm an invocation for recitation to inspire civil discourse at its regular meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council has consistently and repeatedly denounced all forms of prejudice, discrimination, intolerance and intimidation; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council desires to reaffirm that Salida is a hate-free zone and condemns acts causing fear, intimidation, harassment, and harm motivated by bias or prejudice, and furthermore, declares and affirms a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of a person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, gender, gender identity, marital status, military or veteran status, political affiliation, socio-economic class, medical condition, or physical or mental disability; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council hereby amends and readopts its Civility Invocation to include a proclamation of support for equal rights, including pay, treatment under the law, and in the workplace, as well as the right to determine choices that impact one's life, including an individual's reproductive health choices.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SALIDA COLORADO, THAT:

1. The Salida City Council incorporates the foregoing recitals as its conclusions, facts, determinations, and findings.
2. The Salida City Council will recite the Civility Invocation, attached as Exhibit A, at every regular and special meeting of the Salida City Council, and will encourage its subordinate boards and committees to adopt the same.

RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 3rd day of January, 2023.

CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO

By

Dan Shore, Mayor

[SEAL]

ATTEST:

City Clerk/Deputy City Clerk

CIVILITY INVOCATION

We are here working together to create a thriving community. It is the intention of the Salida City Council to promote civil communication by adopting the following guidelines for speaking to the public in the City Council Chambers. It is our hope that by acting in this manner we can help create a safe space for people to share their perspectives and opinions:

- We honor the opportunity to be engaged in the process of governance for the benefit of our community.
- We acknowledge that each of us brings a unique perspective to this conversation and that our perspectives may differ.
- We challenge ourselves to value varying points of view and hold all contributions as equally important.
- We understand and accept that while we may sometimes disagree, we can always be courteous and kind.
- We commit to respectful language, avoiding rumor, harsh criticism or personal accusation, even when feeling emotionally charged.
- We will, to best of our ability, speak thoughtfully and listen with attention, respect, and curiosity.
- We are confident that there may be even better solutions than any of us have thought of, which may be discovered through civil conversations.
- We affirm our support for women's rights, including equal pay, equal treatment under the law and in the workplace, and the right to determine choices that impact the direction and personal values of one's life, including all individuals' reproductive health choices.
- We commit to the City of Salida being a hate-free zone and declare and affirm a policy of non-discrimination on the basis of a person's race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, marital status, military or veteran status, socio-economic class, medical condition, or physical or mental disability.