

## **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 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.