



REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Meeting Date: September 15, 2020

AGENDA ITEM NO.	ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:	PRESENTED BY:
5.b.	Administration	Drew Nelson

ITEM:

Resolution 2020-32 – Amending and Readopting a Civility Invocation, and Proclaiming the City of Salida as a Hate-Free Zone and Celebrating Diversity and Encouraging Tolerance and Respect

BACKGROUND:

Per direction from City Council, staff prepared an amendment and restatement of the City Council's Civility Invocation to include a statement of the City of Salida as a hate-free zone. The attached proclamation is sewn into the Civility Invocation to continuously declare the City as a hate-free zone and confirms 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. Staff worked with members of the City Council, as well as representatives of the Civility Coalition, to craft language that is representative of the views of the Council to hold leadership accountable to these goals.

FISCAL NOTE:

None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

None.

SUGGESTED MOTIONS:

A City Councilperson should make a motion to approve Resolution 2020-32, Amending and Readopting a Civility Invocation, and Proclaiming the City of Salida as a Hate-Free Zone and Celebrating Diversity and Encouraging Tolerance and Respect, followed by a second and a roll call vote.

CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO
RESOLUTION 2020-32
(Series of 2020)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO,
AMENDING AND READOPTING A CIVILITY INVOCATION, AND PROCLAIMING THE
CITY OF SALIDA AS A HATE-FREE ZONE AND CELEBRATING DIVERSITY AND
ENCOURAGING TOLERANCE AND RESPECT**

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council approved Resolution 2020-10, adopting a Civility Invocation; 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 hereby amends and readopts its Civility Invocation to include a proclamation of non-discrimination and anti-bias for the City of Salida; and

WHEREAS, the Salida City Council desires to proclaim and declare Salida 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.

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.
3. The Salida City Council hereby approves a Proclamation, attached as Exhibit B, proclaiming and declaring Salida a hate-free zone.

RESOLVED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 15th day September, 2020.

CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO

By

P.T. Wood, 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 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, gender, gender identity, marital status, military or veteran status, political affiliation, socio-economic class, medical condition, or physical or mental disability.

Proclamation

Celebrating Diversity and Encouraging Tolerance and Respect

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

Whereas, the Salida City Council recognizes that respecting individual dignity, celebrating diversity, and promoting tolerance are the responsibilities of citizens and elected officials alike; and

Whereas, the Salida City Council embraces the broad social, ethnic, racial, and cultural diversity represented by Salida residents, Salida Public Schools and Colorado Mountain College students, and visitors to our community; and

Whereas, the City of Salida desires to promote social harmony among residents and visitors to our community; increase participation in government, business, media and social life among all parts of the community; and a commitment to resolving issues collaboratively through civil discourse and finding common ground; and

Whereas, respect for diversity is a cornerstone of community building.

Now, therefore, the Salida City Council does hereby proclaim and declare Salida, Colorado as 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.

P.T. Wood, Mayor

Date