



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Hailey Adopts Police Policy Resolution

Mayor and City Council Join National Conversation

(Hailey, Idaho) – The Hailey Mayor and City Council discussed and adopted a Police Policies Resolution on Monday, June 22, 2020. The Resolution honored Hailey Police Department’s past and continued commitment to community policing, endorsing a change of policy which immediately enacted the following measures:

- To continue prohibiting the use of chokeholds; and
- To ban the use of tear gas; and
- To require a verbal warning if the situation dictates the officer can do so before using deadly force.

Language within the Resolution reciting the Mayor and City Council’s thoughts include:

WHEREAS, the Hailey Mayor and City Council are acutely aware of the national and local dialogue pertaining to systemic racism and injustice that pervades national and local institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Hailey Mayor and City Council respect and support the men and women of the law enforcement profession, appreciating the honor, enthusiasm, and assistance shown by Hailey Police Department personnel toward the citizens and businesses of Hailey during this trying year; and

WHEREAS, the Hailey Mayor and City Council recognize that individual good intentions and performance are bolstered by clear policies, equitable protocols and substantial training; and

WHEREAS, the Hailey Police Department spoke with forthright candidness in early June, 2020, participating in the nationwide shock, dismay, sadness and rage surrounding the death of George Floyd while in law enforcement custody, stating that “What happened to Mr. Floyd is inexcusable”;



WHEREAS, the Hailey Police Department has taken action to safeguard the wellbeing of the community, stating that action to be “not as a show of authority, but as a sign of protection of our City's residents and visitors, its businesses, its overall infrastructure, and most importantly the safety of those peacefully protesting with the intention of keeping the peace and giving the community peace of mind that HPD has the community’s back during these difficult times”; and

WHEREAS, Hailey Mayor, City Council and Hailey Police Department have been and continue to be a partner with community organizations that help eradicate inequities, such as NAMI, The Advocates for Survivors of Domestic Violence, Hunger Coalition, ARCH, St. Luke’s Center for Community Health, The Senior Connection, and Blaine County Housing Authority; and

WHEREAS, Hailey Mayor and City Council have participated in the funding of organizations dedicated to the needs of the disadvantaged within our community; and

WHEREAS, the Hailey Mayor and City Council endorse Hailey Police Department’s review and improvement of department policies to assure that policies and training protocol carry authority greater than that of any individual, position, and even Idaho state law; and

WHEREAS, the Hailey Mayor and City Council support the improvement of safety protocol for its police department;

WHEREAS, these policy amendments shall be implemented, discussed and trained immediately by the Hailey Police Department, adding them to the approximately 316 page Hailey Police Department Policy manual, knowing that these amendments can reduce and control the use of force without compromising officer safety.