

CITY OF CHEVIOT STATE OF OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 24-07

TO MAINTAIN AND CONFIRM THE NEUTRALITY OF THE CITY OF CHEVIOT TOWARDS ALL ITS RESIDENTS.

WHEREAS, the City of Cheviot is one of the most diverse cities in the United States, in which we should proudly promote and embrace its diversity; and

WHEREAS, the City must and will serve and treat its residents equally, with no discrimination, or special treatment to any group of people; and

WHEREAS, the City has authorized in the past, the Safety Service Director to install flags on the City flagpoles to represent freedom for all and the international character of the City, and

WHEREAS, each religious, ethnic, racial, political, or sexually-oriented group is already represented by the country it belongs to, and

WHEREAS, the City does not want to open the door for radical, racist or terrorist groups to demand their flags to be flown on city flag poles; and

WHEREAS, this Ordinance does not in any way, shape or form infringe upon the fundamental right of an individual or business in the City of Cheviot to engage in their personal free speech protected by the constitution of the United States of America. Nor does this Ordinance limit free speech by public employees, provided that such employees engage in such free speech in a protected time, manner and place and not in the capacity of a Cheviot city employee respecting all residents equally and without any bias or prejudice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHEVIOT, STATE OF OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. The government of the City of Cheviot does not allow any religious, ethnic, racial, political, terrorist or sexual orientation group flags to be flown on the City's public flag poles located on city owned properties, and that only, the American flag, the flag of the State of Ohio, the Cheviot Flag, the Prisoner of War flag, Purple Heart flag, Missing in Action flag that represent the international character of our City shall be flown.

Section 2. This Ordinance shall take effect at the earliest time allowed by law.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kerry Smyth  
President of Council

\_\_\_\_\_ Date passed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Samuel D. Keller  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_ Date approved

*NOT REPEATED OPINION OF THE SAFETY SERVICE DIRECTOR*

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny M. Eilermann

Clerk of Council

Approved as to form:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kimberlee Erdman Rohr

Law Director

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

I, Jenny M. Eilermann, Clerk of the Council of the City of Cheviot, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing ordinance, or a succinct summary, was published in the *Cincinnati Court Index*, a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Cheviot, Ohio, in accordance with Section 731.21 of the Ohio Revised Code, on the following dates:

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_, 2024, and
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_, 2024.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jenny M. Eilermann  
Clerk of Council