



RESOLUTION NO. 974

WEAPONS BANNED FROM PUBLIC GEARHART CITY MEETINGS

WHEREAS, the City of Gearhart is interested in ensuring that people can safely attend public city meetings; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing rise in shootings in Oregon;

NOW, THEREFORE, the City of Gearhart adopts the attached "Policy Regarding Safety Measures and Security Screenings at Public Gearhart City Meetings".

Passed by the City Council of Gearhart this 7 day of September, 2022.

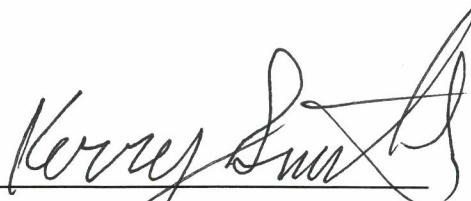
Yeas: 5

Nays: 0

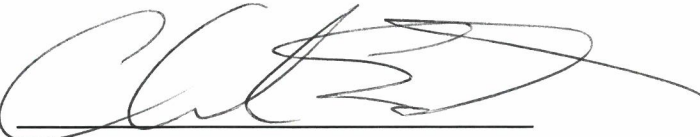
Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

Approved and signed by the Mayor of Gearhart this 7 day of September, 2022



Mayor Kerry Smith



ATTEST: City Administrator, Chad Sweet



POLICY REGARDING SAFETY MEASURES AND SECURITY SCREENINGS AT PUBLIC GEARHART CITY MEETINGS

All visitors to public meetings where any type of city related matters will be discussed may be required to pass through a metal detector, or be subject to a screening with a hand-held metal detection wand, in order to prevent deadly weapons from entering public meetings. The security screening is similar to screenings at large public venues and government buildings. The purpose of a requested screening is for public safety and to limit intimidation of individuals who wish to attend and/or speak at public meetings where city affairs are discussed. It is not for the purpose of locating contraband.

"Deadly weapon" is defined by the Oregon State Statute:

ORS 161.015 (2): "Deadly weapon" means any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury.

Examples of a "deadly weapon" shall include, but are not limited to: Any firearm, bow, crossbow, or slingshot that shoots or ejects a bullet, pellet, arrow, BB, dart or other projectile by explosion, gas propulsion, spring propulsion or by any other means of propulsion, or any knife (except legal pocket knives having a blade length of four inches or less), sword, or explosive device, or any replica of any such deadly weapon.

Any item which falls under the above definitions are prohibited within a City of Gearhart public meeting, no matter the location of the meeting, unless otherwise stated herein.

Before entry into a city-related public meeting is permitted, visitors may be asked to pass through a metal detector or be subject to a screening with a hand-held metal detection wand. **Security screenings are not for the purpose of searching to find contraband.** If the metal detection alarm sounds, the visitor subject to the screening will have an opportunity to return to their vehicle to return or remove items from their bag, pack, or container, or ask for a visual inspection of the bag or other items. Those visitors who return to their cars and/or remove items from their bag or container can return for a subsequent metal detection check.

Excessive repeat metal detection alerts or refusal to clear the metal detection process absent an

exception as stated herein will result in denied entry and a temporary trespass from entering the public meeting (until another subsequent meeting).

Exceptions - Medical and Mobility Devices and Service Animals.

Visitors with prosthetics, casts, splints and other metal implants should advise security staff if they have any of these items.

Visitors who use mobility devices (i.e. wheelchairs, crutches, canes, or strollers), who are able to pass through a metal detector without their mobility device may be asked to do so; if they are unable to pass through the metal detector they may be subject to a screening with a hand-held metal detection wand.

Visitors with medical conditions that require needles, oxygen tanks, or other medical instruments required for their safety will be permitted to enter with the device required for their medical necessity and safety.

Individuals with service animals may also be asked to walk through the detector with their service animal. If the alarm sounds, security staff may screen the service animal using visual and hand-held wand techniques.