

# COUNCIL CHAMBER

City of Berea, Ohio

RESOLUTION No. 2020-29

By Jim Maxwell

Sponsored By Mayor Cyril M. Kleem

A RESOLUTION

Councilman Dozier, Councilwoman Smith  
Council President DeHamer  
Councilmen DeVito, Zacharyasz, McManis,  
Maxwell, Skoczen

**SUPPORTING THE BEREA POLICE DEPARTMENT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND TRAINING PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PROMOTE OFFICER ACCOUNTABILITY, ENCOURAGE OPEN AND HONEST DIALOGUE AND TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK TO BUILD BRIDGES WITH THE COMMUNITY THROUGH ENGAGEMENT; AND URGING OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO ADOPT SIMILAR POLICIES, PROCEDURES AND TRAINING PROGRAMS.**

**WHEREAS**, all Officers of the Berea Police Department receive on-going training in the use of force, including deadly force, techniques of de-escalation, ethics, professionalism, crisis intervention, mental health and arrest, search and seizure; and

**WHEREAS**, the Officers of the Berea Police Department recognize the need to continually engage with the community in order to build bridges and trust; and

**WHEREAS**, the trust of the public has been shaken by the senseless death of George Floyd while in the custody of the Minneapolis Police Department, particularly among African Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berea Police Department has and will continue to actively support efforts to resist racism and to work with residents and community leaders to improve trust through the adoption of effective policies, procedures and training programs; and

**WHEREAS**, immediately upon his promotion to the position of Chief of Police, Chief Dan Clark took action to seek certification from the Ohio Collaborative, a task force on Community-Police relationships, which has established State standards and best practices for use of force, including use of deadly force, bias free policing, use of body cameras and the investigation of employee misconduct; and

**WHEREAS**, the City received provisional certification from the Ohio Collaborative and expects to be fully certified once site visits, which were temporarily stopped due to COVID-19, resume; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berea was one of the first local agencies to use body cameras to enhance accountability and has strict policies governing their use; and

**WHEREAS**, the Officers of the Berea Police Department are neither trained in nor authorized to make general use of air or vascular restraints; and

**WHEREAS**, the Berea Police Department affirmatively disavows the general use of air or vascular restraints.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Berea, State of Ohio:

**SECTION 1.** That the Council of the City of Berea and the Administration support the efforts of the Berea Police Department in continuing to implement effective policies, procedures and training programs designed to promote Officer accountability, encourage open and honest dialogue about difficult issues facing the community and which work to instill the confidence of the community.

**SECTION 2.** That the Council of the City of Berea and the Administration urge all law enforcement agencies to adopt similar policies, procedures and training programs.

**SECTION 3.** That the Council of the City of Berea and the Administration support Chief Clark and the Berea Police Department in a use of force policy that excludes the general use of air or vascular restraints.

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All of Council

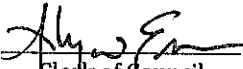
**SECTION 4.** That the Clerk of Council be, and is hereby authorized and directed to, forward copies of this Resolution to the Berea Police Department, Governor Mike DeWine, Attorney General Dave Yost and the Ohio General Assembly.


**SECTION 5.** That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the approval of this Resolution were approved in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 6.** That this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

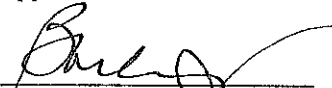
PASSED: June 15, 2020

  
President of Council

ATTEST:   
Clerk of Council

APPROVED: June 17, 2020  
  
Mayor

Approved as to Form:

  
Director of Law