

**ORDINANCE NO. 2022-023**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SEQUIM, WASHINGTON ADOPTING A NEW CHAPTER OF THE SEQUIM MUNICIPAL CODE, CHAPTER 1.20 CITY FLAG POLICY; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE**

**WHEREAS**, at its meeting on July 11, 2022, the Sequim City Council decided it would provide clarity for the public and staff to adopt a policy governing the official display of flags in and on City property; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to memorialize and codify current practices regarding which flags are displayed and when and how flags are flown or lowered to half-staff inside and outside of City facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City wishes to ensure that the City's flag policy is consistent with the United States Flag Code and Washington state law on public flag displays;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the City Council of the City of Sequim do ordain as follows:

**Section 1. Adoption of New Chapter 1.20 City Flag Policy.** The Sequim Municipal Code is amended to adopt a new Chapter 1.20, City Flag Policy, as described in Exhibit A, attached hereto and incorporated by this reference as if set forth in full.

**Section 2. Corrections.** The City Clerk and the codifiers of this Ordinance are authorized to make necessary clerical corrections to this Ordinance including, but not limited to, the correction of scrivener's/clerical errors, references, ordinance numbering, section/subsection numbers and any references thereto.

**Section 3. Severability.** If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such decision does not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining parts of this Ordinance.

**Section 4. Effective Date.** This Ordinance becomes effective five days after publication of the ordinance, or a summary thereof, in the official newspaper of the City.

**PASSED** by the City Council of the City of Sequim at its regular meeting held the 25th day of July, 2022.



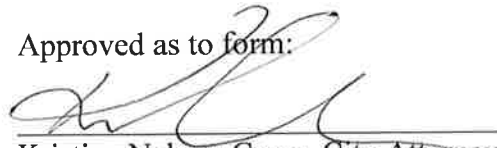
Tom Ferrell, Mayor

Attest:



Haylie Clement, City Clerk

Approved as to form:



Kristina Nelson-Gross, City Attorney

Publication Date: July 29, 2022

Effective Date: August 3, 2022

## Exhibit A

-- NEW --

### Chapter 1.20

#### FLAG DISPLAY

##### Sections:

**1.20.010 Purpose and intent.**

**1.20.020 Allowed flags on city property.**

**1.20.030 Permanent and temporary flag displays on city property.**

**1.20.040 Lowering flags to half-staff.**

##### **1.20.010 Purpose and intent.**

The purpose of this chapter is to regulate the official display of flags inside and outside of city facilities. It is the specific intent of the city council of the city of Sequim to follow the United States Flag Code and Washington State law in its flag displays on city property. Raising flags is an expression of government sentiment, constitutes government speech, and does not open up any city facility or property as a forum for public or limited public participation. This chapter is not intended to regulate display of flags on employee clothing, personal property, or work stations, which are instead governed by the city's personnel policy.

##### **1.20.020 Allowed flags on city property.**

The city will fly or display only the following flags on property owned by the city: The flag of the United States of America; the Washington State flag; the POW/MIA flag; the City of Sequim flag; and any other flag mandated by federal or Washington State law.

##### **1.20.030 Permanent and temporary flag displays on city property.**

The city will fly or display the United States flag, the Washington State flag, and the City of Sequim flag on a permanent basis on the flag staffs outside the civic center and in such other locations as the city council may select.

The POW/MIA flag will be displayed at such times and places as are mandated by federal law on a flag staff outside the civic center and in such other locations as the city council may select.

**1.20.040 Lowering flags to half-staff.**

The city will lower flags displayed in the civic center plaza to half-staff in the following circumstances:

- A. At the direction of the President of the United States;
- B. At the request of the Governor of the State of Washington;
- C. At the request of the city council or city manager in the event of the death of a current city employee or official.