

VILLAGE OF YELLOW SPRINGS, OHIO

RESOLUTION 2025-52

ESTABLISHING EXCEPTIONS TO ORDERS TO FLY THE MUNICIPAL FLAG AT HALF-STAFF

WHEREAS, the US President, the Governor of Ohio and the Mayor of the District of Columbia hold the authority to order American flags to fly at half-staff, and those orders are expected to be applied to flags flown at government buildings; and

WHEREAS, recently, leadership at the highest level of government has increased politicization and, in the case of the Presidential order to lower flags in honor of Charlie Kirk, weaponization of the half-staff policy; and

WHEREAS, Village Council, as representatives of our electors, has a duty to ensure that our core Village Values, specifically the charge to “intentionally promote anti-racism, inclusion, equity and accessibility through all policies, procedures and processes”, are upheld and desires the ability to override any Presidential or Gubernatorial order to fly the flag at half-staff when Council strongly believes that the order directly violates our commitment to anti-racism, inclusion and equity; and

WHEREAS, Village Charter emphasizes that “all executive and legislative powers of the Village and the determination of all matters of policy shall be vested in the Council”.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by Council for the Village of Yellow Springs that:

Section 1. Council President and Council Vice President are hereby authorized to confer with the Village Manager to make decisions regarding any order to fly the American flag at half-staff.

Section 2. In delegating this duty to our duly elected President and Vice President in consultation with our Village Manager, Village Council understands the enormity of this responsibility and the need to enforce this policy with judicious oversight.

Signed: _____
Kevin Stokes, President of Council

Passed: 10-6-2025

Attest: _____
Judy Kintner, Clerk of Council

Roll Call:

Stokes_Y__

DeVore Leonard_Y_

Housh_Y__

Brown_Y__

Gustafson_Y__