

**CITY OF JEANNETTE  
WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 6**

**A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH A POLICY GOVERNING THE LOWERING OF MUNICIPAL  
FLAGS TO HALF-STAFF**

*WHEREAS*, the City of Jeannette recognizes the United States flag as a symbol of national unity, honor, and sacrifice; and

*WHEREAS*, the lowering of flags to half-staff is a solemn expression of respect and mourning; and

*WHEREAS*, the City Council desires to establish a clear, neutral, and consistent policy governing when municipal flags may be lowered to half-staff; and

*WHEREAS*, it is the intent of Council to ensure compliance with federal and state law while maintaining uniform standards for municipal observances;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, and the following is hereby resolved by the City Council of the City of Jeannette:*

**Section 1. Automatic Compliance with Federal and State Orders.**

The City shall lower municipal flags to half-staff upon:

1. A proclamation or order issued by the President of the United States;
2. A proclamation or order issued by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania; or
3. Any directive required by applicable state or federal law.

The City shall comply for the duration specified in such proclamation or order. For purposes of this Resolution, "municipal flags" shall mean any flag flown from a flagpole owned, managed, or operated by the City or as otherwise identified in Section 5, herein.

**Section 2. Local Authorization.**

Absent a federal or state directive, flags owned by the City may be lowered to half-staff only under the following circumstances:

**A. Municipal Officials**

- Upon the death of a current elected official of the City;
- Upon the death of a former elected official who served honorably; and/or

- Upon the death of a current full-time municipal employee or department head.

**B. Public Safety Personnel**

- Upon the death of a current or retired City police officer, firefighter, or emergency services employee; and/or
- Upon the line-of-duty death of any City public safety employee.

**C. Military Service Members**

- For City residents killed while serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces; and/or
- For nationally recognized memorial observances consistent with federal law.

**D. Extraordinary Circumstances**

In rare and extraordinary circumstances, the Mayor, with approval of at least two (2) members of City Council, may authorize the lowering of flags to half-staff for:

- Individuals who made a direct and exceptional impact upon the City;
- Victims of significant local tragedies; and/or
- Events of profound national significance.

Any such action shall be documented in the public record and shall state the reason and duration.

**Section 3. Prohibitions.**

Municipal flags shall not be lowered:

- For partisan political purposes;
- As an endorsement of political candidates or campaigns;
- For private individuals lacking a direct municipal connection, except as provided herein; and/or
- For commercial or promotional purposes.

**Section 4. Duration.**

Unless otherwise directed by federal or state proclamation:

- For municipal officials or employees: From the date of death until sunset on the day of interment;
- For line-of-duty deaths: From date of death until sunset on the day of interment; or
- For other authorized observances: As specified in the approving proclamation, motion, or order.

**Section 5. Applicability.**

This Resolution shall apply to all flags owned, maintained, or displayed by the City, including but not limited to those at:

- City Hall;
- Municipal buildings;
- Public safety facilities;
- Public works facilities; and
- City parks and other public properties.

**Section 6. Administration.**

The Mayor and/or City Manager (or designated administrative official) shall ensure proper implementation of this Resolution and adherence to United States Flag Code protocol when lowering and raising flags.

**Section 7. Effective Date.**

This Resolution shall be effective immediately.

RESOLVED at a duly assembled meeting of the City Council of the City of Jeannette this \_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 2026.

CITY COUNCIL OF THE  
CITY OF JEANNETTE

By:   
Michelle Langdon  
Mayor and President of Council

Attest:

  
Ethan Keedy  
City Manager/City Clerk

(Seal of the City)