

**RESOLUTION 2022-27**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF K-9 OFFICER GUAPO FROM THE VILLAGE OF HIRAM AND AUTHORIZING COUNCIL TO EXECUTE A K-9 OFFICER ADOPTION AGREEMENT WITH DEVIN BROWN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, the Chief of Police is pleased to honor and authorize the retirement of K-9 Officer Guapo after nearly five (5) years of loyal and courageous service; and

**WHEREAS**, Officer Guapo has been a dedicated partner to his handler, Devin Brown; and

**WHEREAS**, K-9 Officer Guapo assisted neighboring agencies of Garrettsville, Mantua, Windham Police, Geauga County, Portage County Sheriff's Office and the Ohio State Highway Patrol in numerous seizures of illegal drugs and criminal apprehension; and

**WHEREAS**, K-9 Officer Guapo earned certifications in: Article Search, Tracking, Marijuana, Cocaine, Heroin, Methamphetamine, Criminal Apprehension, Canine Control and Canine Searches; and

**WHEREAS**, The Chief of Police and the residents of Hiram Village are grateful for his service and wish him well in his retirement.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Village of Hiram, Portage County, Ohio, with at least two-thirds of the members thereto concurring that:

**SECTION 1:** Due to the lack of generated income within the Village General Fund and with revenue from the Hiram College safety contract decreasing 60% since 2016, the police budget can no longer sustain the financial strain of personnel, fuel, and vehicle repairs to continue the K-9 program.

**SECTION 2:** Hiram Village Council authorizes the Chief of Police to execute a K-9 Officer Adoption and Waiver of Liability Agreement under the terms and conditions set forth in the attached Exhibit "A"

**SECTION 3:** All funds that are held in the K-9 account line item 2081-110-420-0999 were raised through K-9 Fundraisers and Donations and no tax revenue to the Village of Hiram has been deposited in the K-9 account.

**SECTION 4:** In order to use donated funds in the fashion requested by the donors, all remaining funds in the K-9 account, line item 2081-110-420-0999 shall be used for aftercare of K-9 Officer Guapo until these funds have been depleted.

**SECTION 5:** This Resolution is declared an emergency measure becoming effective immediately upon passage by Council, approval by the Mayor and signing by Devin Brown, to advance the health, safety and general welfare of the Village, and because time is of the essence to have the retirement of K-9 Officer Guapo completed before the end of August.

**SECTION 6:** It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of the Council and any committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements including §121.22 of the Revised Code of the State of Ohio.

First Reading: August 16, 2022

PASSED IN COUNCIL on second reading as an emergency: August 30, 2022.

  
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Mayor Lou Bertrand

ATTEST:

  
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Fiscal Officer Susan J. Skrovan

Approved as to Form:

  
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Village Solicitor Thomas Reitz

I SUSAN SKROVAN, Fiscal Officer of the Village of Hiram, Ohio, hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution or Ordinance No. 2022-27 has been duly posted in the required 5 places.  
9/7/2022 Susan J. Skrovan  
Date Fiscal Officer, Village of Hiram