

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_(CM)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF  
WATSONVILLE RENEWAL OF THE MILITARY EQUIPMENT USE  
POLICY AND CITY ORDINANCE AND APPROVAL OF THE ANNUAL  
MILITARY EQUIPMENT REPORT**

**WHEREAS**, effective January 1, 2022, Assembly Bill 481 (AB 481) (Government Code sections 7071 *et. seq.*) sets forth a process by which law enforcement agencies are to obtain approval and annual renewal from their governing bodies of a City ordinance and military equipment use policy; and

**WHEREAS**, the Watsonville Police Department currently has military equipment (of which term is defined in Government Code section 7070(c)) in its inventory; and

**WHEREAS**, the Watsonville Police Department works closely with other local, county, state and federal law enforcement agencies within Santa Cruz County on police related matters, including safeguarding the public's welfare and safety, working on regional task forces, conducting training exercises, and providing mutual aid and responding to emergencies; and

**WHEREAS**, in exigent circumstances, there is sometimes the need to deploy military equipment from or lend military equipment to outside entities to promote the safety and security of community members; and

**WHEREAS**, the continued collaboration with other law enforcement agencies in the deployment or other use of military equipment within the City is necessary to safeguard the public's welfare, safety, civil rights and civil liberties and there is no reasonable alternative that can achieve the same objective of officer and civilian safety, and

**WHEREAS**, Watsonville Police Department - Policy 708 sets forth a military equipment use policy that is consistent with the Police Department's current practices, has been posted on the Department's website since April, 2022, complies with all the

requirements of AB 481, will ensure ongoing regulation and compliance with the law going forward and will provide a means of community engagement and transparency regarding use of military equipment by the Department; and

**WHEREAS**, a public notice has been provided and a well-publicized and conveniently located community engagement meeting held, in accordance with applicable law; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council desires to renew the City of Watsonville's Ordinance 4-13 and the Watsonville Police Department's Military Equipment Use Policy - Policy 708, and approve its annual Military Equipment Report in compliance with AB 481.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. This action is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), in that adopting a Resolution adopting a military equipment use policy does not meet CEQA's definition of a "project," because the action does not have the potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, and because the action constitutes organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment and if a "project," is exempt under the "common sense" exception (14 Cal. Code Regs. § 15061(b)(3)) because it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that this action may have a significant effect on the environment.

2. That the City Council does hereby renews Watsonville Municipal Code 4-13 (Military Equipment Use) and the Watsonville Police Department's Military Equipment Use Policy - Policy 708, and approves the Watsonville Police Department's annual Military

Equipment Report in compliance with AB 481, in the form attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

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