# RESOLUTION # 4974

A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN SOCIAL MEDIA USE POLICY, STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES FOR CITY EMPLOYEES, AND DECLARING THAT THIS RESOLUTION SHALL BE IN FULL FORCE IMMEDIATELY.

Whereas, The way residents and businesses communicate and obtain information about the City of Kewanee online is changing; and'

Whereas, The City of Kewanee's departments may consider the use of social media tools to reach a broader audience; and,

Whereas, The City of Kewanee encourages the use of social media to further the goals and mission of the City and its departments, where appropriate; and,

Whereas, The City has an overriding interest and expectation in deciding what is "announced" or "spoken" on behalf of the City on social media sites; and,

Whereas, the use of social media offers a cornucopia of potential benefits, it can also open the door to some significant risks; and,

Whereas, Access to electronic communications gives each individual social media user an immense and unprecedented reach to propagate City messages and tell our business story.

#### BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KEWANEE THAT:

**Section 1** That the following policy on Social Media Use, Standards and Procedures be and is hereby established.

**Section 2** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval as provided by law.

Adopted by the Council of the City of Kewanee, Illinois this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.

ATTEST:

Melinda Edwards, City Clerk

Adopted by the Council of the City of Kewanee, Illinois this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.

Steve Soan Steve Looney, Mayor

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'.	RECORD OF THE VOTE	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent	
	Mayor Steve Looney	X				
.,,,	Councilmember Michael Yaklich	X				
.e. ,ed	// Councilmember Deann Schweitzer	X				
٠.]	ouncilmember-Andrew-Koehler-	X				
٠,	Councilmember Kellie Wallace-McKenna	X				
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## CITY OF KEWANEE

SUBJECT	ISSUED BY	EFFECTIVE DATE	REVISION DATE
SOCIAL MEDIA USE POLICY, STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES	City Council	4/11/2016	

#### **POLICY STATEMENT**

#### **Purpose**

To address the fast-changing landscape of the Internet and the way residents and businesses communicate and obtain information about the City of Kewanee online, the City of Kewanee's (the "City") departments may consider using social media tools to reach a broader audience. The City encourages the use of social media to further the goals of the City and the missions of its departments, where appropriate.

The City has an overriding interest and expectation in deciding what is "announced" or "spoken" on behalf of the City on social media sites. This policy establishes internal procedures for the use of social media.

What is "social media"? "Social media" and "Web 2.0" are terms used interchangeably to refer to activities that integrate technology, social interaction and content creation. This media allows people to generate, organize, share, edit and comment on web content by means of RSS and other web feeds, blogs, mashups, widgets, wikis, podcasts and photo- and video-sharing, to name a few.

#### General

- All of the City's social media sites that are posted by departments and offices will be subject to approval by the City Manager or designee.
- The City's website (<u>http://www.cityofkewanee.com</u>) will remain the City's primary and predominant internet presence.
- The most appropriate uses of social media tools are as informational channels to increase the City's ability to broadcast its messages to the widest possible audience.
  - Social media will not be the primary tool used for disseminating emergency information. Emergency information may be released on social media sites, but not before release on the primary emergency information systems.

- Wherever possible, content posted to the City's social media sites will also be made available on the City's website.
- Wherever possible, content posted to the City's social media sites must contain hyperlinks directing users back to the City's official website for in-depth information, forms, documents or online services necessary to conduct business with the City of Kewanee.
- As is the case for the City's website, the department's director or designee will be responsible for the content and upkeep (including maintenance and monitoring) of any social media site that department may create.
- The City's social media sites shall comply with all appropriate City of Kewanee policies and procedures.
- The City's social media sites shall comply with the City's conflict of interest code and applicable ethics rules and policies.
- The City's social media sites are subject to the Illinois Public Records Act. Any content maintained in a social media format that is related to City business, including a list of subscribers and posted communication (with certain exceptions), is a public record. The Department maintaining the site is responsible for responding completely and accurately to any public records request for public records on social media; provided, however, such requests shall be handled in collaboration with the City Attorney's Office. Content related to City business shall be maintained in an accessible format and so that it can be produced in response to a request (see the City's Twitter, Facebook and Video Posting standards). Wherever possible, such sites shall clearly indicate that any articles and any other content posted or submitted for posting may be or are subject to public disclosure upon request. Users shall be notified that public disclosure requests must be directed to the relevant department's director or designee.
- Illinois law and relevant City records retention schedules apply to social media formats and social media content. Unless otherwise addressed in a specific social media standards document, the department maintaining a site shall preserve records required to be maintained pursuant to a relevant records retention schedule for the required retention period on a City server in a format that preserves the integrity of the original record and is easily accessible. Appropriate retention formats for specific social media tools are detailed in the City's Twitter, Facebook and Video Posting standards.
- Users and visitors to the City's social media sites shall be notified that the intended purpose of the site is to serve as a means of communication between City departments and members of the public. The City's social media site articles, posts and comments containing any of the following forms of content shall not be allowed and shall be removed as soon as possible:
  - Comments that are not topically related to the particular posting being commented upon
  - Comments in support of, or opposition to, political campaigns, candidates or ballot measures

- o Profane language or content
- Content that promotes, fosters, or perpetuates discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, age, religion, gender, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, national origin, physical or mental disability or sexual orientation
- Sexual content or links to sexual content
- o Solicitations of commerce
- Conduct or encouragement of illegal activity
- Information that may compromise the safety or security of the public or public systems
- O Content that violates a legal ownership interest of any other party Users shall be informed by posting to the City's social media sites that the City disclaims any and all responsibility and liability for any materials that the City deems inappropriate for posting, which cannot be removed in an expeditious and otherwise timely manner.
- These guidelines must be displayed to users or made available by hyperlink. Any content removed based on these guidelines must be retained, including the time, date and identity of the poster when available (see the City's Twitter, Facebook and Video Posting standards), in accordance with the City's policy on the retention of such information.
- The City reserves the right to restrict or remove any content that is deemed in violation of this policy or any applicable law.
- The City reserves the right to terminate any City social media site at any time without notice.
- The City will approach the use of social media tools as consistently as possible, enterprise wide.
- All new social media tools proposed for City use will be approved by the City Manager.
- City social media sites may contain content, including but not limited to, advertisements or hyperlinks over which the City has no control. The city does not endorse any hyperlink or advertisement placed on City social media sites by the social media site's owners, vendors or partners.

#### **PROCEDURES**

# Administration of the City's Social Media Sites

- The City Manager or designee will maintain a list of social media tools which are approved for use by City departments and staff.
- The City Clerk will maintain a list of the City's social media sites, including login and password information. The department's director or designee will inform the City Manager or designee of any new social media sites or administrative changes to existing sites.

- The City must be able to immediately edit or remove content from social media sites.
- For each social media tool approved for use by the City the following documentation will be developed and adopted:
  - Operational and use guidelines
  - Standards and processes for managing accounts on social media sites
  - City and departmental branding standards
  - Enterprise-wide design standards
  - Standards for the administration of social media sites
  - Social Media Standards

The following social media tools have been approved by the City and standards have been developed for their use:

Twitter - Twitter Standard Facebook - Facebook Standard Video - Video Posting Standard

The use of other sites must be approved by the City Manager or designee.

### TWITTER STANDARD

### Purpose

Twitter is a micro-blogging tool that allows account holders to tweet up to 140 characters of information to followers. By procuring and maintaining Twitter accounts, City departments will communicate information directly to their Twitter followers, alerting them to news and directing them to the City's website for more information. These standards should be used in conjunction with the City's Social Media Use Policy, Standards and Procedures.

#### Content

- A department's director or designee shall hold and maintain that department's Twitter account, If applicable.
- Each department may have only one Twitter account, unless otherwise approved by the City Manager. Account information, including usernames and passwords, shall be registered with the City Clerk.
- A department's Twitter biography and/or background information will include a link to City's website where the following disclaimer information will be posted:
  - "This is an official City of Kewanee Twitter account. For more information—about the City of Kewanee please visit <a href="https://www.cityofkewanee.com">www.cityofkewanee.com</a>. This site is intended to serve as a mechanism for communication between the public and the department on the listed topics and as a forum to further

the mission of the department. Any direct tweets to this page and its list of followers may be considered a public record which is subject to disclosure pursuant to the Illinois Public Records Act. Public information requests must be directed to the City Clerk."

- Twitter usernames shall begin with "Kewanee" (KewaneePD, KewaneeFire and KewaneeMgr). In cases where the username consists of too many characters, begin with "KEW"
- The main image shall be the Department logo or an appropriate photo. It may also be the City's logo which will be provided by the City Manager or designee. If the City logo is not used as the main image it should be in the background section.
- Twitter accounts shall serve three primary purposes:
  - Disseminate immediate interesting or important information to residents of which a news item on the City's website is not necessary or possible
  - o Promote City-sponsored meetings, events, programs and facilities
  - Refer followers to a news item or content hosted at the City's website and the department's Facebook page
- Information posted on Twitter shall conform to the existing protocols of the City and the department that is posting the information. Tweets shall be relevant, timely and informative.
- Any employee authorized to post items on any of the City's social media sites shall not express his or her own personal views or concerns through such postings. Instead, postings on any of the city's social media sites shall only reflect the views of the City.
- Twitter content, as much as possible, shall mirror information presented on the City's website and other existing information-dissemination mechanisms. The department's director or designee shall ensure that information is posted correctly the first time.
- Postings must contain information that is freely available to the public and not be confidential as defined by any City policy or state or federal law.
- Departments will use proper grammar and standard AP style, and will avoid the use of jargon and abbreviations. Twitter is more casual than most other communication tools, but communications must still best represent the City at all times.
- The department's director or designee shall be responsive to those constituents who communicate via Twitter's @reply or direct message functions.
   Communication with followers will be timely and consistent with existing protocols.

#### <u>Archive</u>

The department's director or designee will maintain an electronic record or printout of any information necessary to retain for the purposes of public

records retention in accordance with applicable City policy regarding retention of such information that is not available from the application.

#### **FACEBOOK STANDARD**

#### **Purpose**

Facebook is a social networking site that continues to grow in popularity and functionality. Businesses and government agencies have joined individuals in using Facebook to promote activities, programs, projects and events. This standard is designed for City departments looking to drive traffic to department websites and to inform more people about City activities. These standards should be used in conjunction with the Social Media Use policy and video posting policy. As Facebook changes, these standards may be updated as needed.

### Establishing a Page

Whenever a department determines it has a business need for a Facebook account, it will submit a request to the City Manager or designee. Once approved, the City Manager or designee will work with the department to create a basic page for the department. Applications are not to be added to the City's Facebook site without the express written approval of the City Manager. The department's director or designee will register the page with a City email address. Personal Facebook profiles should not be used to administrate City pages unless approved by the City Manager or designee.

### Type of "Pages"

- The City will create "pages" in Facebook (not "groups"). Facebook "pages" offer distinct advantages including greater visibility, customization and measurability.

## **Format**

- For 'type' description, choose "government."
- The main image shall be the Department logo or an appropriate photo. It may also be the City's logo and the City logo must be one of the profile pictures.
- Departments will include a mission statement or appropriate text in the introduction box on the Wall Page.
- Using the FBML static page application, a boilerplate section should contain a department/program description and the following:
  - "This is an official Facebook page of the City of Kewanee. For more information about the City of Kewanee please visit www.cityofkewanee.com. This site is intended to serve as a mechanism for communication between the public and the department on the listed

topics and as a forum to further the mission of the department. Any comment submitted to this page and its list of fans may be considered a public record which is subject to disclosure pursuant to the Illinois Public Records Act. Public information requests must be directed to the City Clerk."

- If comments are turned on, the FBML page shall also include a Comment Policy Box with the following disclaimer:
  - "Comments posted to this page will be monitored and inappropriate content will be removed as soon as possible. Under the City of Kewanee Social Media Use Policy, Standards and Procedures, the City reserves the right to remove inappropriate content, including, but not limited to, those items that have obscene language or sexual content, threaten or defame any person or organization, violate the legal ownership interest of another party, promote illegal activity and promote commercial services or products. The City disclaims any and all responsibility and liability for any materials that the City deems inappropriate for posting, which cannot be removed in an expeditious and otherwise timely manner."
- The page shall be linked to the City's Facebook page.
- A link to www.cityofkewanee.com will be included on the Info page.
- City department and project pages should be fans of other City Facebook pages.
- The page name must be descriptive of the department. Each department will choose carefully with due consideration given to abbreviations, slang iterations, and proper grammatical usage.
  - The City Manager or designee will approve proposed names.

### Page Administrators

- A successful page requires consistent attention. The department's director will
  designate one or more staff members as page administrators who will be
  responsible for monitoring the department's Facebook page. Only designated
  department staff members will make posts.
- Any employee authorized to post items on any of the City's social media sites shall not express his or her own personal views or concerns through such postings. Instead, postings on any of the city's social media sites shall only reflect the views of the City
- The department's director or designee will be responsible for ensuring content is not stale. The department will designate one or more back-up administrators.
- Postings must contain information that is freely available to the public and not be confidential as defined by any City policy or state or federal law.

## **Comments and Discussion Boards**

 Comments to the Wall generally will be allowed if the department is able to and does regularly monitor content. If the department is unable to do so, comments to the Wall shall be turned off. Discussion Boards shall be turned off unless approved by the City Manager or designee.

### **Photos and Video**

- Page administrators may add photos and videos to the department's Facebook page. The approval of the City Manager or designee will not be required. If there are postings of photos and/or videos of the public, staff must secure waivers by individuals depicted in the photo and/or video. Photos and/or videos of the City's employees taken during regular office hours may be posted without obtaining waivers. Videos must follow the Video Posting Standard.
- The ability for fans to post photos, videos and links shall be turned off unless approved by the City Manager or designee.

### <u>Style</u>

- The City's and the departments' Facebook pages will include consistent City branding.
- The City Manager or designee will provide departments and offices with the guidance for City branding.
- Departments will use proper grammar and standard AP style, and will avoid the
  use of jargon and abbreviations. Facebook is more casual than most other
  communication tools, but communications must still best represent the City at
  all times.

#### **Applications**

- There are thousands of Facebook applications. Common applications can allow users to stream video and music, post photos, and view and subscribe to RSS feeds. While some may be useful to the page's mission, they can cause clutter and security risks.
- An application must not be used unless it serves an appropriate and a valid business purpose, adds to the user experience, comes from a trusted source, and is approved by the City Manager or designee.
- An application may be removed at any time if the City determines that it is causing a security breach or spreading viruses.

### Archive

- The department's director or designee will maintain an electronic record or printout of any information necessary to retain for the purposes of public records retention in accordance with applicable City policy regarding retention of such information that is not available from the application.

## A Note about Indemnity

- Most online sites require users to agree to terms of service that include such provisions as:
  - 1. **Indemnification and Defense.** When a public agency creates an account on a social media site, it typically must agree not to sue the site, nor allow the site to be included in suits against the agency. Many sites also require the account owner to pay the site's legal costs arising from such suits.
  - 2. **Applicable Law and Venue.** Most terms of service also assert that a certain state's laws apply to the terms of use and that the state's courts will adjudicate disputes.
- The terms of service represent a binding contract; public agencies should assure that they have taken the steps necessary to bind the agency to such an agreement.
- Some companies are willing to negotiate on the substantive provisions in the terms of use, but they may be hesitant to negotiate separate agreements with dozens of different agencies. For example, the FAQ on the "Facebook and Government" page indicates that "at this time Facebook does not have any special legal agreements for state and local governments."

#### VIDEO POSTING STANDARD

#### <u>Purpose</u>

The City will enable access to online video content, as this is the way many residents communicate and obtain information online. Key objectives for video content shall meet one or more of the follow goals: to further the department's mission, provide information about City services, showcase City and community events and explore City issues. The City encourages the use of video content to further the goals of the City and the missions of its departments, where appropriate. These standards should be used in conjunction with the City's Social Media Use Policy, Standards and Procedures.

## **Video Posting Guidelines**

- The department's director or designee will be responsible for approving the video content.
- Video quality must be comparable to DVD resolution quality.
- Low quality video will be considered as long as the audio portion is clear and the content is compelling and informative.
- All videos must be posted on the department's website and the department's Facebook page.
- The department must secure a disclaimer from the author or owner or the right to use all of or part of a video if the video was not produced by the department or any other City department.
- Videos streamed from other sources may not be posted to the City's website.
   Links to external videos are permitted, but it must only be used when content is relevant and necessary approvals are received.

# **Submitting Videos to Hosting Sites**

- Videos may be submitted to hosting sites such as YouTube and Vimeo as well as Facebook on a case-by-case basis under the direction of the department's director or designee.
- Most of these sites limit the video to the lesser of 10 minutes in length or less than 1 GB of data storage.
- Comments posted to these sites must be monitored or the ability to post a comment shall be turned off. Comments must adhere to the guidelines stated in the Social Media Use Policy.

#### Archive

- Any video posted to a third party's video site must also be posted on the department's website for purposes of records retention.