Joint Resolution No. 2024-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL'S OF BLACKFOOT, SHELLEY, FIRTH, ABERDEEN AND THE BINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IN SUPPORT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES IN BINGHAM COUNTY

WHEREAS, the first public library was created in 1790 in Franklin, Massachusetts, United States of America, through a collection of books donated by Benjamin Franklin, and

WHEREAS, the first free public Library that was supported by taxation was the Peterborough, New Hampshire Town Library, which was founded on April 19, 1833, and

WHEREAS, Public Libraries were established as a means for people to access and borrow books to enhance knowledge and to be able to attain and read books for pleasure and for the pursuit of knowledge, and

WHEREAS, we believe it is a First Amendment right to have a free and unfettered access to books in our Public Libraries that meet the cultural and social needs of all patrons, and

WHEREAS, Idaho Code Title 33, Chapters 26 and 27 allow Library Trustees and Library Directors to operate and manage independently of direct supervision of local government, i.e. City Councils and/or County Commissioners, and by extension of principle, by State or Federal Government, and

WHEREAS, the Boards of Trustees and Library Directors of the City of Blackfoot and Bingham County have the full support and confidence of the Mayor and City Council and the Bingham County Commissioners to establish policies and to provide appropriate access to print and electronic reading materials suitable to patrons regardless of age.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BINGHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AND BLACKFOOT CITY COUNCIL AND MAYOR, THAT: We are committed to help maintain public libraries which serve our communities in providing free and open access to print and digital books in support of all society members who seek knowledge and information in pursuit of learning, and recreation. We particularly recognize the role of a Public Library in the introduction of children to books and storytelling, to social interaction, and in teaching responsibility for the care of property. We also fully support the role of parents in supervising their own children's use of the library.

RESOLVED this 2nd day of February, 2024

Commissioner Whitpley Manwaring

Make R. Bira

Commissioner Mark Bair

Commissioner Eric Jackson

Mayor Rex Mitchell

Mayor Marc Carroll

Mayor Larry Barret

Mayor Stacy Pascoe

Mayor Brandon Jolley