RESOLUTION NO. _____

(Adoption of this resolution would authorize the retirement of the City of Washington's first police canine and transfer ownership to Thor's handler, Officer Dan Foster.)

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RETIREMENT OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON POLICE CANINE, THOR, AND TRANSFERRING OWNERSHIP OF THOR TO OFFICER DAN FOSTER

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council commend the services rendered by the City of Washington's first police canine, Thor, who has been serving since 2013; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council recognize that Thor has provided the Washington's residents and visitors invaluable service by assisting officers in the apprehension of suspects in investigations, assisting in locating missing persons, and being a police ambassador to the community; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council have deemed due to age-associated health issues, Thor is no longer fit for public service as a full-service police canine; and

WHEREAS, Officer Dan Foster, who has been Thor's partner throughout Thor's police service, has agreed to accept ownership of Thor so that Thor can enjoy his retirement with Officer Foster and his family; and

WHEREAS, § 5 of the Illinois Police Dog Retirement Act, 510 ILCS 82/5, provides that a police dog in use by a county, municipal, or State law enforcement agency, which is deemed no longer fit for public service, shall be offered by the law enforcement agency to the officer or employee who had custody and control of the animal during its service:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WASHINGTON, TAZEWELL COUNTY, ILLINOIS:

SECTION 1:   Due to his age-associated health issues, Thor is deemed no longer fit for public service as a full-service police canine and shall be considered as retired from his service as a working dog with the City of Washington Police Department.

SECTION 2:   Officer Dan Foster has accepted the offer by the City's Police Department's to take ownership of Thor and care for and bear the costs for the care of Thor in his retirement for the rest of Thor's remaining years.

SECTION 3:   By accepting the offer to be the owner of Thor, Officer Foster forever absolves and releases the City from any reimbursement or claims against the City, its employees and agents, for the cost of caring for Thor including, but not limited to, veterinarian care, food, shelter, and other canine-related maintenance costs.

SECTION 4: This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval as provided by law, but in no case earlier than April 4, 2023.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED by City Council of the City of Washington, Tazewell County, Illinois this 13th day of March, 2023, A.D.

AYES _____

NAYS _____

_____
Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
City Clerk

A Contract Transferring Ownership of police canine Thor from the City of Washington to Officer Dan Foster:

Contingent upon passage of a resolution, ordinance, or motion by concurrence of at least ¾ of the Alderpersons holding office, The City of Washington, by its Chief of Police Michael D. McCoy, and Daniel Foster, a City of Washington Police Officer and Canine Handler, agree to the following:

On April 4, 2023, the City of Washington transfers ownership and control of Thor, a Dutch Shepherd, to Daniel Foster;

Daniel Foster accepts ownership of Thor and forever absolves and releases the City from any reimbursement or claims against the City, its employees and agents, for the cost of caring for Thor including, but not limited to veterinarian care, food, shelter, and other canine-related maintenance costs;

The City of Washington and Dan Foster acknowledge both that Thor retains value, including as a companion animal, and that absent this transfer, the City of Washington would continue to incur costs for continued care of Thor;

The City of Washington and Dan Foster agree to transfer ownership of Thor so that Foster enjoys the value of Thor in exchange for assuming costs to care for Thor, which would otherwise fall to the City.

Dated April 4, 2023

_____   _____

Chief of Police Michael D. McCoy   Daniel Foster

WITNESS:

_____

Linda Storer, Notary Public