



CITY OF HALLOWELL

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George D. Lapointe, Mayor

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3 November 2023



Hallowell Pride Alliance

I am writing, belatedly, in response to your correspondence to City Council and the City Manager in June about potential discrimination by the Hallowell Fire Department toward the Hallowell Pride Alliance and other celebrants of the annual Pride Parade.

City Council apologizes for the tone of the response to your correspondence by the City Manager. His response was inappropriate in tone and content and Council understands how hurtful it was to members of the LGBTQ+ community.

At the upcoming November 13th meeting, Council will be considering a number of actions to address some of the issues raised by the Hallowell Pride Alliance. This will include:

- 1) Ensuring that the Pride Parade, and other parades, receive adequate public safety and traffic control support. This may be done by requiring Hallowell Fire Department members to provide support to the Hallowell Police Department or by hiring off-duty law enforcement officers to assist the Hallowell Police Department.
- 2) Requiring all parades have liability insurance and clarifying a fair set of requirements for all parade organizers
- 3) Council will set clear expectations for DEI training for all city employees to ensure that the training is effective and meaningful.

The City of Hallowell will continue to operate according to the Granite City Values Statement and to ensure that City actions recognize and protect all of the people in Hallowell.

Sincerely,

George D. Lapointe
Mayor

cc: City Council members