



**AGENDA  
CITY OF LAUREL  
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 01, 2023  
6:30 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Public Input:** *Citizens may address the Council regarding any item of City business that is not on tonight's agenda. The duration for an individual speaking under Public Input is limited to three minutes. While all comments are welcome, the Council will not take action on any item not on the agenda. If a citizen would like to speak or comment regarding an item that is on tonight's agenda, we ask that you wait until the agenda item is presented to the Council by the Mayor and the public is asked to comment by the Mayor. Once again, each speaker is limited to three minutes.*

*Be advised, if a discussion item has an upcoming public hearing, we would request members of the public to reserve your comments until the public hearing. At the public hearing, the City Council will establish an official record that will include all of your comments, testimony and written evidence. The City Council will base its decision on the record created during the public hearing. Any comments provided tonight will not be included in the record or considered by the City Council.*

**General Items**

**Executive Review**

1. Resolution - Resolution Approving Agreement Regarding School Resource Officer Program By And Between The City Of Laurel And Laurel Public Schools, District 7 & 7-70

**Council Issues**

2. Brush Truck InterCap Loan Discussion
3. Savage Cat Rescue Discussion

**Other Items**

**Attendance at Upcoming Council Meeting**

**Announcements**

The City makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person's ability to participate in this meeting. Persons needing accommodation must notify the City Clerk's Office to make needed arrangements. To make your request known, please call 406-628-7431, Ext. 2, or write to City Clerk, PO Box 10, Laurel, MT 59044, or present your request at City Hall, 115 West First Street, Laurel, Montana.

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**File Attachments for Item:**

1. Resolution - Resolution Approving Agreement Regarding School Resource Officer Program  
By And Between The City Of Laurel And Laurel Public Schools, District 7 & 7-70

**RESOLUTION NO. R23-\_\_**

**RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT REGARDING SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF LAUREL AND LAUREL PUBLIC SCHOOLS, DISTRICT 7 & 7-70**

WHEREAS, the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City”) and the Laurel Public Schools, District 7 & 7-70 (hereinafter “the District”) desire to maintain a cooperative and coordinated approach to deterring and addressing criminal activity on school property and at District sponsored events and activities;

WHEREAS, Montana law authorizes the District to contract with the City to have municipal law enforcement provide a School Resource Officer (hereinafter “SRO”) and SRO-related law enforcement services;

WHEREAS, Montana law further authorizes the District to levy for an appropriate portion of the costs the City incurs in paying wages, providing benefits, and providing transportation for law enforcement officers who are assigned to perform SRO duties in the District; and

WHEREAS, the City and the District have agreed to an Agreement Regarding School Resource Officer Program (hereinafter “SRO Agreement”), which is attached hereto and incorporated herein.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana:

Section 1: Approval. The SRO Agreement by and between the City of Laurel and the District, a copy attached hereto and incorporated herein, is hereby approved.

Section 2: Execution. The Mayor is hereby given authority to execute the SRO Agreement on behalf of the City.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council on the \_\_\_\_ day of August 2023 by Council Member \_\_\_\_.

PASSED and APPROVED by the City Council of the City of Laurel, Montana on the \_\_\_\_ day of August 2023.

APPROVED by the Mayor on the \_\_\_\_ day of August 2023.

CITY OF LAUREL

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Dave Waggoner, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Kelly Strecker, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Michele L. Braukmann, Civil City Attorney

**AGREEMENT REGARDING**  
**SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM**

This Agreement is entered into this 26 day of July, 2023, by and between the City of Laurel (hereinafter “the City” or “the City of Laurel”) and the Laurel Public Schools, District 7 & 7-70 (hereinafter “the District” or “the School District”) as follows:

**RECITALS**

WHEREAS, the District and the City desire to maintain a cooperative and coordinated approach to deterring and addressing criminal activity on school property and at District-sponsored events and activities;

WHEREAS, Montana law authorizes the District to contract with the City to have municipal law enforcement provide a School Resource Officer (hereinafter “SRO”) and SRO-related law enforcement services; and

WHEREAS, Montana law further authorizes the District to levy for an appropriate portion of the costs the City incurs in paying wages, providing benefits, and providing transportation for law enforcement officers who are assigned to perform SRO duties in the District.

**WITNESSETH**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises, terms, covenants, and conditions set forth herein and other valuable consideration, the sufficiency of which is acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. **Purpose of Agreement:** The purpose of this Agreement is for the City to assign 1) one law enforcement officer and reasonably necessary equipment to the District for the School Resource Officer program for the City of Laurel Middle School and 2) one law enforcement officer and reasonably necessary equipment to the District for the School Resource Officer program for the City of Laurel High School.
2. **Definitions:** The following definitions apply to this Agreement:
  - a. “Additional services” mean services that a law enforcement officer provides, at the District’s request, outside the regular hours of SRO service that are described in this Agreement. By way of example, but without limitation, the SRO performs additional services if, at the request of a school administrator or District administrator, the SRO attends a school board meeting, an extracurricular activity, or a community function that is held in the evening.
  - b. “Exigent circumstances” mean circumstances under which the courts permit law enforcement officers to execute a warrantless search or seizure; circumstances under which a reasonable law enforcement officer would believe that a person presents an

immediate and substantial risk of harm to self or others; circumstances under which urgent action is reasonably necessary in order to prevent the destruction of evidence of a serious crime; and circumstances in which a law enforcement officer is in hot pursuit of a suspect who is believed to have committed, or to have attempted to commit, a serious crime and is in the process of fleeing.

- c. “School resource officer” or “SRO” means a licensed law enforcement officer who is employed by the City and is assigned to provide SRO duties or additional services pursuant to this Agreement.
- d. “SRO duties” include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following:
- protecting persons who are present on school property or at a school sponsored event or activity;
  - protecting real and personal property;
  - serving as a role model for students, parents, and community members;
  - conferring with students, parents, and community members for the purpose of deterring or addressing criminal behavior on school property or at a school sponsored event or activity;
  - identifying and advising on security vulnerabilities in the District’s schools;
  - being present and visible on school property and surrounding areas;
  - serving as a resource for school officials regarding the prevention and deterring of criminal activity on school property and at school sponsored events and activities;
  - serving as a mentor and resource for students;
  - conducting regular meetings with various student groups that represent a diverse population in efforts to promote positive relationships;
  - giving presentations to students and staff that are designed to promote safety or to deter, decrease, or otherwise address drug use or other potential criminal activity by students;
  - investigating and otherwise addressing criminal activity that has occurred, is alleged to have occurred, may have occurred, or is expected to occur on school property or at a school sponsored event or activity;
  - as required for exigent circumstances or immediate safety threats (as determined in collaboration with the District), conducting searches of students, student lockers, student backpacks, school property, and student vehicles;
  - recovering lost or stolen property;

- enforcing all criminal laws on school property and at school sponsored events and activities;
  - responding to emergencies including, but not limited to, medical emergencies and situations involving a threat of violence or harm to property or to any person who is on school property or is at a school sponsored event or activity;
  - attending trainings provided by the District related to equity, childhood trauma, cultural responsiveness and others as requested by the Superintendent;
  - meeting and collaborating with school administrators and District administrators to develop and work toward mutually agreed upon goals; and
  - other tasks as assigned by the Laurel Police Department.
- e. “School day” means a day on which school is in session and general student attendance is required, including any make-up days that are scheduled because school was canceled for any reason. School days are identified on the District calendar, which is published on the District’s website. Days on which students attend summer school are not school days.
- f. “School property” means: any property, within the City of Laurel, owned, leased, or controlled by the District where an elementary school, middle school, secondary school, secondary vocational center, alternative learning program, or other school providing educational services is located or used for educational purposes, or where extracurricular or co-curricular activities are regularly provided.
3. **Term:** This Agreement is for a term of one-year beginning on September 1, 2023 and ending on August 31, 2024. This Agreement will automatically renew for a period of twelve calendar months (September 1 to August 31) unless either party provides written notice of termination to the other party on or July 1<sup>st</sup>.
4. **Termination:** This Agreement may be terminated with or without cause by either party upon thirty (30) days’ prior written notice.
5. **Employment of SRO:**
- a. The SRO shall be an employee of the City of Laurel and shall be subject to the administration, supervision, and control of the City of Laurel.
  - b. The SRO shall be subject to all personnel policies and practices of the City of Laurel, except as such policies or practices may be modified by the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
  - c. The City of Laurel, in its sole discretion, shall have the power and authority to hire, discharge, and discipline the SRO.

**6. Assignment of SRO:**

**a. Duty Hours:**

- i. SRO duty hours shall be determined by the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the City of Laurel and Local Union 303, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFSCME. Whenever possible, it is the intent of the parties that the SRO's duty hours shall conform to the school day.
- ii. It is understood and agreed that time spent by the SRO attending municipal court, juvenile court, and/or criminal cases arising from and/or out of their employment as an SRO, as well as SRO duties involved in school zone enforcement, home visits, and procedural matters involving the Police Department, shall be considered as hours worked under this Agreement.

**b. Absences:**

- i. In the event the SRO is absent from work, the SRO shall notify his or her supervisor in the Police Department and the Principal of the school to which the SRO is assigned.
- ii. If an SRO is absent for more than ten (10) consecutive school days, related to a leave of absence, the City will undertake reasonable efforts to assign another licensed law enforcement officer to serve as a temporary replacement and perform the regular SRO's duties during any additional absences.

- c. **Vehicle/Equipment/Training:** The City is responsible for providing the SRO with a vehicle and all necessary law enforcement equipment, including any necessary electronic devices. The City is also responsible for providing training and education to all law enforcement officers who are assigned to provide services pursuant to this Agreement.

**7. Time and Place of Performance:** The City will endeavor to assure that the SRO will be available for duty at the assigned campus each day that school is in session during the regular school year. The District understands that there may be times when the SRO is needed off-campus due to emergency law enforcement activities or court appearances.

**8. Relationship of Parties:**

- a. The City shall have the status of an Independent Contractor for purposes of this Agreement. The SRO assigned to the District shall be considered the employee of the City and shall be subject to the City's sole and exclusive control and supervision.



- b. The Chief of Police and the Superintendent will evaluate the program throughout the year in order to ensure that the program is meeting expectations. Following the close of the school year, the Chief of Police and the Superintendent will each individually prepare a summary report on the year's operations and provide any recommendations for changes. This report will be reviewed by both the City Council and the School Board, in considering any changes to be made for the upcoming school year.
- c. The SRO will be subject to current policies and procedures in effect for City of Laurel Law Enforcement Officers, including attendance at all mandated training and testing to maintain Officer certification.
- d. This Agreement is not intended to and will not constitute, create, give rise to, or otherwise cause a joint venture, partnership, or formal business association or organization of any kind between the parties, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be only those expressly set forth in this Agreement.

**9. Payment/Costs:**

- a. **Monthly Base Payment:** The District will pay the City the following fees per year, in two equal payments in December 2023 and June 2024, for all SRO services, excluding additional services, which are provided pursuant to this Agreement:

Sixty-One Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars and Twenty-One Cents (\$61,962.21) for SRO No. 1; and

Sixty-Two Thousand One Hundred Forty-Nine Dollars and Fifty-Six Cents (\$62,149.56) for SRO No. 2.

This payment is intended to cover a reasonable amount of the cost the City incurs in paying wages, providing benefits, and providing transportation for the SRO assigned to perform SRO duties under this Agreement. The City will invoice the District in December 2023 and June 2024, with each invoice to reflect half of the total two-balances combined, as reflected above.

- b. **Costs:** The City agrees to pay all overtime costs, non-school related expenses related to or resulting from law enforcement related activities, such as criminal investigations and court appearances, and costs relating to vehicle and insurance.
- c. **Additional Services:** District administrators and school administrators may request that the City assign one or more law enforcement officers to provide "additional services" as defined in this Agreement. The City will make reasonable efforts to accommodate such requests. When the City assigns an officer to provide additional services, the District will be responsible for paying the officer's wages for the hours worked while providing additional services, any resulting overtime costs, a prorated portion of the officer's benefits for the hours worked while providing additional services, and the officer's transportation costs directly associated with providing

additional services. The City will submit an itemized invoice to the District describing the additional services that were provided, the location where the additional services were provided, and the costs the City incurred in providing the additional services.

10. **District Responsibilities:** In addition to making the payments described in this Agreement, the District will provide office space for the SRO. At a minimum, the office space will be furnished with a desk, chair, filing space capable of being secured, a computer, and a landline telephone. The SRO may print materials and make photocopies at the school where the SRO is assigned if the materials and photocopies relate to SRO duties.
11. **Prohibited Actions:** In the absence of exigent circumstances, a law enforcement officer who is employed by the City may not interview a student on school property about criminal activity or potential criminal activity unless: (a) the officer is conducting a maltreatment of minor investigation; (b) the crime has occurred, is alleged to have occurred, may have occurred, is occurring, or is reasonably expected to occur in the near future on school property or at a school sponsored event or activity; or (c) the officer has obtained prior written permission from the building principal and from the student's parent or guardian or the student, if the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older. In addition, a law enforcement officer may not participate in recommending or determining student discipline or in investigating incidents of student discipline which do not involve potential criminal activity.
12. **Execution of Arrest Warrants:** When executing an arrest warrant for a student on school property, a law enforcement officer must make reasonable efforts to protect other students and staff members who are present and to avoid undue embarrassment to the student who is being arrested. This paragraph is not intended to prevent an officer from taking immediate action to arrest a student who is fleeing or who presents an imminent and substantial risk of harm to self, others, or property.
13. **Access to Records.** School officials shall allow the SRO to inspect and copy any public records maintained by the school to the extent allowed by law. If some information in a student's record is needed in an emergency to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals, school officials shall disclose to the SRO that information which is needed to respond to the emergency situation based on the seriousness of the threat to someone's health or safety, the need of the information to meet the emergency situation, and the extent to which time is of the essence. If confidential student record information is needed by the SRO, but no emergency situation exists, the information may be released only as allowed by law.
14. **Liability and Indemnification:** Each party is solely responsible for the act(s) and omission(s) of its own officers, employees, officials, agents, and representatives. To the extent permitted by law, each party agrees to indemnify the other party from any and all damages, liability, judgments, claims, expenses, attorney fees, and costs resulting from any act or omission of any of its officers, employees, officials, agents, or representatives.

Each party's liability, if any, is limited by applicable Montana law, and nothing in this Agreement may be deemed to constitute a waiver of those limits.

15. **Notices:** The District must provide all official notices under this Agreement by electronic mail or U.S. Mail addressed to the City's Chief of Police, Stan Langve, at slangve@laurel.mt.gov or 215 West First Street, Laurel MT 59044. The City must provide all official notices under this Agreement by electronic mail or U.S. Mail addressed to the District's Superintendent at 410 Colorado Avenue, Laurel MT 59044. Either party may designate a different addressee or address at any time by giving written notice to the other party. Notice that is delivered by mail is effective upon mailing. Notice that is delivered by email is effective upon transmission.
16. **No Unlawful Discrimination:** The District and the City each agree to provide equal employment opportunities to all employees and applicants for employment in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws. No person may be excluded from full employment rights in, participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in any program, service, or activity based on race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, marital status, sexual preference, HIV status, public assistance status, creed, or national origin. In addition, the District and the City each specifically agree not to discriminate unlawfully against any student in any program, service, activity, or decision based on race, color, religion, age, sex, disability, marital status, sexual preference, HIV status, public assistance status, creed, or national origin.
17. **Waiver and Enforcement:** The failure to insist on compliance with any term, covenant, or condition contained in this Agreement must not be deemed to be a waiver of that term, covenant, or condition, nor will any waiver or relinquishment of any right or power contained in this Agreement at any time be deemed to be a waiver or relinquishment of any right or power at any other time. Each party is responsible for its own costs, expenses, and any attorneys' fees associated with this Agreement and any related matters, including enforcement of this Agreement.
18. **Equal Drafting:** In the event that either party asserts that a provision of this Agreement is ambiguous, this Agreement must be construed to have been drafted equally by the Parties.
19. **Choice of Law, Forum, and Severability:** This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of Montana. The parties agree that the Montana state and federal courts will have exclusive jurisdiction over any dispute arising out of this Agreement. If a court determines that any part of this Agreement is unlawful or unenforceable, the remaining portions of the Agreement will remain in full force and effect.
20. **Entire Agreement, Changes, and Effect:** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the District and the City regarding SRO duties and additional services. This Agreement supersedes any inconsistent statements or promises made by either party. This Agreement also supersedes and terminates any prior or existing agreements or contracts regarding the same or any similar subject matter. Neither party

has relied upon any statements, promises, agreements, or representations that are not stated in this Agreement. No changes to this Agreement are valid unless they are in writing and signed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have entered into this Agreement on the dates recorded by their signature. By signing below, each party specifically acknowledges that it has read this Agreement and that it understands and voluntarily agrees to be legally bound by all terms of the Agreement.

CITY OF LAUREL

LAUREL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

\_\_\_\_\_  
City of Laurel Mayor

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Board Chairperson

Date: 7/29/23

**File Attachments for Item:**

3. Savage Cat Rescue Discussion

**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: In Support of Savage Cat Rescue Inc.  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:22:03 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone  
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**From:** Heather Holley <heather@bmslawmt.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 4:47:57 PM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** In Support of Savage Cat Rescue Inc.

Good afternoon Mr. Mayor,

My name is Heather Holley. I am a legal assistant for a firm in Billings Montana. I have lived in Laurel since January 2012 with my husband, four kids and our pets. I have lived most of my life in Montana.

We love living in Laurel. Love the people, love the small-town feel, the convenience of having schools within walking distance and the great people.

I am very much an animal lover of all sorts, as I think you may be too, especially with your most recent post regarding the orphaned fawns.

I enjoy the fact that you engage with everyone, seem open and honest with the community. The community of Laurel is of your best interest, and I appreciate that.

I will be unable to attend then next city council meeting, but I would like to have my voice heard regarding something I find incredibly important.

When I moved to Laurel, up until roughly 8 months ago, we had cats fighting in our alley and yard literally every single day and night. I would be woken up every night and have to go out and break up the giant gangs of unfixed male cats so that I could get some rest. We had cat poop in our yards. There were often deceased cats along the sides of main street leaving town etc.

I love kitties and so many of them suffer due to the fact that we as humans have let them down. Since Lorie has come to the rescue it has been a complete 180! I haven't heard a single cat fight in probably 8 months! I have noticed less young cats running the street. Lorie has been a god send! She has finally made a decent enough dent in the stray/feral cat community that we are noticing a difference. Cats like many other animals breed incredibly quick and unfortunately if we lose Lorie we will be right back to where we were in no time.

I ask that you please take into consideration what she is asking, we are asking for.

Lorie is asking the city to only contribute one third of the cost of taking in, vetting and adopting or returning to owner. That doesn't even cover any extra costs.

She has requested \$3,500 from the city of Laurel to cover an estimated 120 cats for this year. I honestly wouldn't be surprised if she ends up assisting more. It is surprising to me that we do not have resources provided at all from the city regarding this matter. Especially since most towns (even

towns smaller than Laurel) have something in place regarding stray animals. Many others and I in and outside of the community help her as much as we can but she really needs assistance from the city. The Laurel Police Department refer any and all calls regarding cats directly to her without consent or assistance. She has graciously given her time and resources to help us out. She has finally put her foot down and will no longer help Laurel if she is not supported by the city, and rightfully so.

Once she leaves, the cat population will begin to rise again. Large cat colonies can suffer from pretty nasty diseases which can easily spread, including to cats that have loving and caring homes. What Lorie is doing is positive for the community and I would love to see her be supported. We need her!!!! I feel as though \$3,500.00 for a whole year is a drop in the bucket.

Please take my support into consideration. I know there are MANY others who feel the same and I sincerely hope they reach out to you or attend the meeting.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

*Heather Holley*

Legal Assistant

Billstein, Monson & Small PLLC

1555 Campus Way, Suite 201

Billings, MT 59102

(406) 656-6551

[heather@bmslawmt.com](mailto:heather@bmslawmt.com)



**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: CATS!!!  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:23:11 AM

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**From:** snowjmpr@aol.com <snowjmpr@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 6, 2023 8:07:51 PM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** CATS!!!

Dear Mayor and City Council:

In February 2022 we noticed considerable cat activity in our neighborhood that we have lived in for 23 years. Several kittens in our yard and at one time, 2 cats mating and 3 were "waiting". Didn't want our dog to injure, or, be injured by a protective momma cat so I bought a humane cat trap from Amazon and when it arrived I just stared at it because I had no clue what I was doing. As good fortune would have it, someone told me about a new cat rescue in the Laurel area called Savage Cat Rescue and I wasted no time contacting them! Lorie educated me as we set her traps in a known cat rendezvous area. It was cold, very cold. After about 2 hours I checked the trap and we had a big Tom cat in it! Battle scarred, dehydrated, hungry! Over the course of 3 weeks we captured four more cats! Feral.

Female cats can start breeding at the age of 4 months and can become pregnant just a few days after giving birth to a litter. The population can explode exponentially if not controlled.

Lori took care of the feral cat population in this neighborhood humanely. Each cat was vetted, immunized, chipped, and ear tipped(visually indicating spayed or neutered), and adopted out if it could be a house cat or adopted out as a barn cat so it could work for its shelter, water, and food. She is not only working to control the cat population, but also to decrease the spread of feline disease.

I would greatly encourage the city council to support her request for \$3,500 per year from the city of Laurel to continue to reduce the feral cat population and therefore reduce the risks associated with them. Her successful work in the past year and a half speaks for itself.

Betsy Snow  
Laurel resident

[Sent from AOL on Android](#)



**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd:  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:21:43 AM

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**From:** Jan Patenaude <janjanpat@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 11, 2023 1:01:17 PM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:**

I sincerely hope you will agree to help Lorie Savage (Savage Cat Rescue). She is a Godsend for stray cats.

We live east of Laurel and discovered that we had a mother cat and two kittens under our mobile home in Oct 21. She is the only person that responded to my request for help. She humanely trapped them and took them home to be vaccinated and adopted. We have 3 totally indoors cats. It breaks my heart to see all of the strays in Laurel. Lorie is doing a wonderful job attacking the problem of wild strays, getting them neutered and vaccinated as well as feeding them til they are adopted.

We need to have her work here continue.

Thank you

**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Savage Cat Rescue  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:22:38 AM

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**From:** Emineth Barb <basecme@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 9, 2023 1:38:41 PM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** Savage Cat Rescue

Laurel absolutely has a Ferrell cat problem and this organization needs the support of our city as well as individuals. Jodi Mackay should be letting me know when I can come to council and speak on this important issue! Respectfully, Barb Emineth

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)

**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stray Cats in Laurel  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:22:23 AM

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**From:** Kelsie Robbie <kelsie.robby@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 10, 2023 12:03:48 PM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** Stray Cats in Laurel

Dear Mayor Waggoner,

I am writing you to address the stray cat problem in our neighborhood. We live on Durland Ave and take pride in keeping a nice curb appeal to our home. We understand that the South Side is an older neighborhood and not everyone will take pride in their homes but us and several other families on our block work really hard to make it a nice place. With that being said the alley cats are getting out of control. We have lived in our home for 5 years and they have always been a problem but it is getting worse. We have nice patio furniture that is constantly peed/pooped on by these cats. We have invested in patio furniture covers but that will pee/poop on those too. We have been woken up many nights do to cat fights on our patio. We have a privacy fence and have tried many "cat repellent" options but nothing is working. I called the city and they referred me to Savage Cat rescue but she will no longer take them. We were also told to live trap them and dispose of them humanely but we wouldn't be asked to do that if it were a stray dog.

We work so hard to keep our little home nice and a clean, fun backyard for our daughter. We just want a solution for this problem.

Thank you,  
Kelsie Robbie

**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Stray cats  
**Date:** Wednesday, July 12, 2023 9:22:52 AM

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**From:** Jenna Jacoutot <jennajacoutot20@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 8, 2023 9:16:13 AM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** Stray cats

Hello, good morning.

I was just wondering what services are available in regards to stray and abandoned cats in the Laurel area?

We see so many just running around. So many breeding and giving birth to kittens. Do we just let them reproduce to the extent that they get sick? A number of years ago there was a culling of cats because they all had distemper and no owners. For public health cats were rounded up and euthanised I do believe. It would be a shame to have it come back to that because of our lack of support.

Thank you for your time,  
- Laurel resident Jenna

**From:** [City Mayor](#)  
**To:** [Brittney Moorman](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Feral cats  
**Date:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 10:31:44 AM

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**From:** Douglas Powell <powelldouglasj@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 13, 2023 10:23:06 AM  
**To:** City Mayor <citymayor@laurel.mt.gov>  
**Subject:** Feral cats

Hello Mr Wagner

My name is Douglas Powell. I am a resident of Laurel MT. I live in the trailer park off of Yard Office Rd. My address is 2315 E. Maryland Ln.

I am writing to you to ask for your help in resolving a problem. About 2 months ago I called the Laurel animal control about a feral cat problem. There were about 10 cats in my yard. The officer I spoke to told me that there is NO ordinance for cats and referred me to Lorie Howard. She does cat rescue. She came and helped me.

Your Chief of Police, Stan Langve, has stated "Laurel doesn't have a feral cat problem". That simply is not true. There are ALOT of stray cats where I live. We tax payers in Laurel need an ordinance for cats like we have for dogs. It takes funding. Lorie Howard, who lives in Billings has been working on our cat issues and has dealt with about 200 cats in the past 18 months without any financial help from the City of Laurel. She simply can't keep doing it for free. How does one go about getting an ordinance and funding for this issue?

Please call me at 406-281-3717 at your earliest convenience sir. Thank you in advance for your time and help resolve this issue. Douglas Powell.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android](#)