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BEACHWOOD POLICE CHIEF KATE MCLAUGHLIN & DEPUTY CHIEF JOHN RESEK'S STATEMENT REGARDING THE POLICE UNION'S VOTE

(BEACHWOOD, OHIO –December 19, 2022) – We are disappointed with the no confidence vote by unionized members of the police department, especially considering the many and ongoing conversations we've had with both union leadership and officers to identify and understand perceived concerns. Our focus, however, remains squarely on one job, and one job only: protecting Beachwood residents and the people who work, visit, dine and shop here.

We hold the men and women who work for the Beachwood Police Department to the highest possible professional standards, perhaps higher than some officers prefer, and we make no apologies for that. Some members may believe we are too demanding, that we expect too much from them, but we know our officers are not being asked to perform any assignments beyond their contracts, and we are fully confident they are up to the task. Our officers put their lives on the line, and we are proud of their service to the community.

We also value their constructive comments and suggestions. If there's a better approach that makes sense for our department, we will adopt it. But not every suggestion is practical or feasible, and it is leadership's responsibility to determine the best way forward. A police department cannot run itself by consensus.

We are extremely honored to be in leadership roles within the Beachwood Police Department, jobs we do not take for granted. This vote will not distract from all the good we have done and will continue to do, and the progress we have made under this leadership team.

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