

CITY OF BEDFORD, OHIO

ORDINANCE NO. 9964-22

**AMENDED**

AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE RE-DIVIDING THE CITY OF BEDFORD INTO SIX WARDS AS NEARLY EQUAL IN NUMBER OF PERSONS AS POSSIBLE, ESTABLISHING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE WARDS, AND CERTIFYING SAME TO THE BOARD OF ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, Section II-1 (c) of the Charter of the City of Bedford provides for the redivision of the municipality into six wards, in the interest of equalizing voter strength in all wards as nearly equal in number of persons as possible, and

WHEREAS, the Federal Census Bureau has finally released the block census totals for the City of Bedford and the City has engaged Triad Research Group with the task of the redivision of the City into six wards as nearly equal in the number of persons as possible, in accordance with the mandates of the aforementioned Charter provisions based on population as directed by Ohio Revised Code Section 731.06 and current law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Bedford, County of Cuyahoga, and the State of Ohio that:

Section 1. Pursuant to Section II-1 (c) of the Charter of the City of Bedford, the municipality is hereby redivided into six wards, as nearly in numbers of persons as possible, as the same is depicted in the April 6, 2022 proposal, attached hereto and expressly made a part hereof by reference effective January 1, 2023 to avoid confusion in the 2022 Primary and General Elections and allow the Board of Elections to notify the public of the changes.

Section 2. The Council hereby determines that the time limits for redivision as set forth in Section II-1 (c) of the City Charter were impossible to comply with due to the unavailability of census data from the Federal Government, and therefore this redivision has occurred as soon as was possible under the circumstances.

Section 3. The Clerk of Council be and she is hereby authorized and directed to certify a copy of this Ordinance along with the new Ward map attached hereto the Cuyahoga County Board of Elections.

Section 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and all deliberations of this Council, and any of its committees, that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Revised Code Section 121.22.

Section 5. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare of the inhabitants of the City, the reason for the emergency being that the same relates to the daily operation of a municipal department, therefore, provided it receives two-thirds of the vote of all members of

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Council elected thereto, said Ordinance shall be in full force and effect commencing January 1, 2023.

WHEREFORE, this Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest date permitted by law.

1<sup>st</sup> Rdg.: 4/18/22

2<sup>nd</sup> Rdg.: 4/26/22

Tabled: 5/2/22

Removed from the Table : 7/5/22

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stanley C. Koci, Mayor-President of Council

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Tracy M. Simons, Clerk of Council

Prepared and approved as to legal content by: \_\_\_\_\_  
John J. Montello, Law Director

PASSED: July 5, 2022