

# BEREA CITY COUNCIL

*City of Berea, Ohio*

ORDINANCE NO. 2024- \_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor: Mayor Cyril M. Kleem

## AN ORDINANCE

**REPEALING AND REPLACING SECTIONS 135.09, 135.11 AND 135.13 OF CHAPTER 135, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, OF TITLE FIVE, ADMINISTRATIVE, OF PART ONE, ADMINISTRATIVE CODE, OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEREА TO ALLOW FOR LATERAL TRANSFERS OF POLICE OFFICERS TO THE CITY OF BEREА, OHIO FROM OTHER OHIO JURISDICTIONS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.**

**WHEREAS**, in Ordinance No. 2021-20, the Council of the City of Berea amended various sections of Chapter 135 to permit lateral transfers to the position of Patrol Officer in the Department of Public Safety, Division of Police; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of applicants for public safety jobs across the United States continues to steadily decline; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Berea continues to experience a substantial decline in the number of applicants taking written civil service examinations for entry-level positions in the Division of Police; and

**WHEREAS**, since 2021, the City has appointed five high quality lateral candidates to the position of Patrol Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the years 2024 to 2026, the Chief of Police expects that up to six officers will retire, and, in recognition of the challenges faced with hiring traditional candidates, it is likely that several of the replacements hired in anticipation of the retirements will be lateral candidates; and

**WHEREAS**, after three years of operating under the revisions made in Ordinance No. 2021-20, it is now clear that the process can be made more efficient and streamlined, while continuing to balance the interests of the reality of the challenges in finding qualified candidates for the Berea Police Department; and

**WHEREAS**, this Council desires to make provisions for hiring experienced Police Officers in order to provide for the continued efficient, effective and adequate operation of the Division of Police; and

# BEREA CITY COUNCIL

*City of Berea, Ohio*

## ORDINANCE NO. 2024- \_\_

**WHEREAS**, by hiring experienced public safety employees, the City can reduce the extensive training time required before a new hire is able to be fully functional as a police officer.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Council of the City of Berea, State of Ohio:

**SECTION 1.** That Sections 135.09, 135.11 and 135.13, of Chapter 135, Civil Service Commission, of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea, attached hereto as "Exhibit A" and incorporated herein by reference, shall be expressly repealed and replaced with new Sections 135.09, 135.11 and 135.13, attached hereto as "Exhibit B" and incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 2.** That the Civil Service Commission is directed to adopt and promulgate any rules consistent with Chapter 135 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Berea to implement the amendments contained in Exhibit "B".

**SECTION 3.** That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

**SECTION 4.** That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, safety and welfare, or providing for the usual daily operation of a municipal department and for the further reason that it is immediately necessary to make such provisions in order to provide adequate staffing and operation of the Division of Police. Therefore, provided this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of two-thirds of all members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of Council

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Director of Law