

ORDINANCE NO. 75 -2026

AN ORDINANCE AFFIRMING THE CITY OF SYLVANIA POLICE DEPARTMENT'S POLICIES; REQUIRING NOTICE TO CITY COUNCIL OF CERTAIN POLICY CHANGES AND RE-AFFIRMING THE CITY OF SYLVANIA'S COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY SAFETY, PROFESSIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NON-DISCRIMINATORY POLICING; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the City of Sylvania is committed to protecting the civil and human rights of all residents and visitors regardless of actual or perceived race, creed, color, religion, alienage or national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, age, disability or handicap, sex, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local laws; and,

WHEREAS, the City maintains written policies and procedures governing the operations of the Sylvania City Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police is responsible for the day-to-day administration, supervision, and operational leadership of the Police Department; and,

WHEREAS, City Council continues to support its police department and law enforcement officers to perform their duties effectively while maintaining transparency and adherence to the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Sylvania, Lucas County, Ohio, _____ members elected thereto concurring:

SECTION 1. The City of Sylvania is committed to protecting the civil and human rights of all residents and visitors regardless of actual or perceived race, creed, color, religion, alienage or national origin, ancestry, citizenship status, age, disability or handicap, sex, marital status, veteran status, sexual orientation, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by applicable federal, state or local laws.

SECTION 2. The City of Sylvania services, benefits, programs, and protections shall be afforded to all people to the fullest extent permitted by State and Federal Law.

SECTION 3. If Federal Immigration enforcement efforts are underway in the City of Sylvania, the Sylvania Police Department may provide peacekeeping and crowd and traffic

control measures as set forth in Sylvania Police Policy 413 – Immigration Violations.

SECTION 4. In accordance with Sylvania Municipal Code Section 125.05, the Director of Public Safety may adopt, revise, or update departmental policies and procedures as necessary for the effective operation of the Sylvania City Police Department, consistent with applicable law and administrative authority. The Director of Public Safety shall provide prior notice, whenever possible, to the Mayor of such changes. The Chief of Police shall provide notice to City Council within a reasonable period if changes to the following policies are made: Policy 321 – Standards of Conduct, Policy 401 – Bias-Based Policing; and Policy 413 – Immigration Violations.

SECTION 5. The Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police will continue to utilize Lexipol or other similar services to assist it in reviewing and recommending policy changes to comport with Federal and State Law. Any change in the service utilized shall require City Council approval.

SECTION 6. The City shall begin posting the Sylvania Police Department annual report on its website.

SECTION 7. Nothing in this ordinance shall be construed to prohibit the sharing of information that is: (A) already public; (B) necessary for the investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense; or (C) required under 8 U.S.C. Section 1373 or any other federal or state statute that expressly mandates the sharing of specific information concerning an individual's citizenship or immigration status, provided that such sharing shall be as limited as legally permissible.

SECTION 8. The City shall not enter into any agreement, contract, memorandum of understanding, or similar arrangement (herein after "Agreement") without the approval of City Council unless such Agreement is required by State or Federal law.

SECTION 9. The Director of Public Safety shall retain primary authority for the implementation, interpretation and operational application of Police Department Policies and Procedures.

SECTION 10. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage 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 action, were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 11. That the Clerk of Council is hereby directed to post a copy of this Ordinance in the Office of the Clerk of Council in the Municipal Building pursuant to ARTICLE III, Section 12, of the Charter of this City.

SECTION 12. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, property and welfare and for the further reason that the City should re-affirm its policies and procedures at the earliest

AMENDED

possible time. Provided this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of five (5) or more members elected to Council, it shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days after it is approved by the Mayor or as otherwise provided by the Charter.

Vote on passage as an emergency: Yeas _____ Nays _____

Passed, _____, 2026, as an emergency measure.

President of Council

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Clerk of Council

Director of Law

APPROVED:

Mayor

Date