

(Mayor Potter)

CITY OF KIRTLAND

ORDINANCE NUMBER 26-O-19

AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE AGREEMENT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTING SERVICES BETWEEN EDWARD J. ECKART OF E SQUARED STRATEGIES LLC AND THE CITY OF KIRTLAND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and members of City Council have previously conducted a review of the economic development director position, including the necessary qualifications, salaries and benefits, and prospective duties; and

WHEREAS, Edward J. Eckart of E Squared Strategies LLC has been retained to consult with the City for economic development services since 2021, and his contract expires on March 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Edward J. Eckart and E Squared Strategies LLC have performed said consulting services admirably, and the City wishes to extend the duration of the services for one year and for the terms as delineated in its original proposal adopted by this Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Council of the City of Kirtland, Lake County, Ohio, that:

SECTION I: This Council hereby extends the agreement for economic development consulting services of Edward J. Eckart of E Squared Strategies LLC to serve as the City's Economic Development Director, a part time independent contractor, for the period commencing April 1, 2026, or the effective date of this legislation, whichever is *later*, and ending on March 31, 2027.

SECTION II: The proposal, re-incorporated by reference to 21-R-45, is hereby accepted. Edward Eckart and the firm of E Squared Strategies LLC shall be responsible for the performance of the duties as outlined therein. In exchange for said performance, E Squared Strategies LLC shall be paid at the rate of \$2,950.00 per month.

SECTION III: In all cases, Edward J. Eckart and E Squared Strategies LLC shall be considered independent contractors and shall be issued a 1099 tax form or equivalent reporting form as required by law. An independent contractor is not a public employee and shall not become a contributor to the retirement system in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code section 145-1-42(A)(2).

SECTION VII: The Director of Finance is authorized and instructed to issue such vouchers and expend all funds necessary to pay said wages and special fees on a monthly basis.

SECTION V:

(a) It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were passed 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.

(b) This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the City, and for the further reason that it is necessary to provide for the needs of the municipality by and through the services of an economic development director; wherefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage by the affirmative vote of five (5) members of Council and approval by the Mayor, otherwise this Ordinance shall be in effect from and after its adoption at the earliest period allowed by law.

First Reading: _____
Second Reading: _____
Third Reading: _____

DATE PASSED: _____

President of Council

Submitted to the Mayor for his
Approval on this _____ day of
_____, 2026.

ATTEST:

Approved by the Mayor, this ___ day of
_____, 2026.

Clerk of Council
Extend Eckart Economic Development Dir. 2026

Mayor Kevin F. Potter