

## ORDINANCE NO. 23-257

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH THE ERIE COUNTY SHERIFF FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHING SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF SANDUSKY POLICE, FIRE AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2024, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024; AND DECLARING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL TAKE IMMEDIATE EFFECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 14 OF THE CITY CHARTER.**

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the City of Sandusky began researching and studying the concept of public safety regional communications and upon the development and recommendation of a regional communications adhoc committee, the City co-located its public safety dispatch services to the Erie County Sheriff's Office in 2009; and

**WHEREAS**, the co-location was undertaken with the understanding that a plan would be developed for regional communications over the next two years and in 2011 plans were developed to bring the Sandusky Public Safety Dispatchers under the employment and supervision of the Erie County Sheriff's Office and subsequently, the Erie County Sheriff's Office has provided these dispatching services since 2012 to present; and

**WHEREAS**, this City Commission approved the previous contract with the Erie County Sheriff for the Provision of Dispatching Services for the City of Sandusky Police, Fire and Service Departments for CY 2023 by Ordinance No. 22-257, passed on December 12, 2023, at a total cost of \$312,479.10; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposed contract is for one (1) year commencing on January 1, 2024, and terminating on December 31, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, the City agrees to reimburse the Erie County Sheriff's Department for the dispatching services an amount not to exceed \$312,479.00, of which \$156,239.50 (50%) will be paid with funds from the Fire Department's 2024 Proposed Budget (110-1310-53001 at 22% and 431-1330-53001 at 28%) and \$156,239.50 (50%) will be paid with funds from the Police Department's 2024 Proposed Budget (110-1020-53001); and

**WHEREAS**, this Ordinance should be passed as an emergency measure under suspension of the rules in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter in order to execute the contract with the Erie County Sheriff for the provision of dispatching services for the City's Police, Fire and Service Departments and allow for continued dispatching services through calendar year 2024, as the current contract expires on December 31, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, in that it is deemed necessary in order to provide for the immediate preservation of the public peace, property, health, and safety of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, and its citizens, and to provide for the efficient daily operation of the Municipal Departments, including the Police and Fire Departments, of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, the City Commission of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, finds that an

**PAGE 2 - ORDINANCE NO. 23-257**

emergency exists regarding the aforesaid, and that it is advisable that this **Ordinance** be declared an emergency measure which will take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter upon its adoption; and NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO, THAT:

Section 1. The City Manager is authorized and directed to enter into a one (1) year Contract with the Erie County Sheriff for the Provision of Public Safety Dispatching Services for the City's Police, Fire and Service Departments commencing on January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, substantially in the same form as Exhibit "1", a copy of which is attached to this Ordinance and is specifically incorporated as if fully rewritten herein, together with such revisions or additions as are approved by the Law Director as not being adverse to the City and as being consistent with carrying out the terms of this Ordinance at an amount **not to exceed** Three Hundred Twelve Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Nine and 00/100 Dollars (\$312,479.00).

Section 2. If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 3. This City Commission finds and determines that all formal actions of this City Commission concerning and relating to the passage of this Ordinance were taken in an open meeting of this City Commission and that all deliberations of this City Commission and of any of its committees that resulted in those formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with the law.

Section 4. That for the reasons set forth in the preamble hereto, this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure which shall take immediate effect in accordance with Section 14 of the City Charter after its

**PAGE 3 - ORDINANCE NO. 23-257**

adoption and due authentication by the President and the Clerk of the City Commission of the City of Sandusky, Ohio.



---

RICHARD R. BRADY  
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION



ATTEST:

---

CATHLEEN A. MYERS  
CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION

Passed: December 11, 2023

**RENEWAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO  
AND THE  
ERIE COUNTY, OHIO SHERIFF  
FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHING SERVICES  
FOR THE CITY OF SANDUSKY POLICE, FIRE, AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS.**

January 1, 2024  
Page 1 of 4

This renewal contract is entered into by and between the City of Sandusky (City) and the Erie County Sheriff (Sheriff), pursuant to Ohio Revised Code Section 311.29.

1. Commencing on January 1, 2024 at 12:01 A.M., the Sheriff will continue to furnish personnel and will continue to provide dispatching and communications services, as has been the past routine and custom, for the City of Sandusky Police, Fire, and Service Departments; and
2. The City agrees to reimburse the Sheriff for the provision of said dispatching and communications services for calendar year 2024 in an amount of \$312,479.00, billable in twelve (12) equal installments.
3. The Chiefs of the Sandusky Police and Fire Departments will continue as members of the Erie County Sheriff's Office Dispatch Advisory Board (Board). The Board is comprised of one representative of each of the public safety agencies contracting with the Sheriff for dispatching and communications services; the Board exists to provide dispatch and communications policy input and guidance to the Sheriff and acts as a selection board for the Sheriff's Communications Supervisor. Sheriff agrees to abide by the recommendation of the Board relative to the selection or discharge of said Sheriff's Communications Supervisor, who shall be a fiduciary employee of the Sheriff; and
4. City agrees to abide by the recommendations of the Board relative to the dispatching and communications services provided by the Sheriff for the City's agencies; and
5. This contract shall remain in effect until 12:00 midnight on December 31, 2024; and
6. Either party may cancel this agreement at any time upon 180 days advance written notice to the other party; and

**RENEWAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO  
AND THE  
ERIE COUNTY, OHIO SHERIFF  
FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHING SERVICES  
FOR THE CITY OF SANDUSKY POLICE, FIRE, AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS.**

January 1, 2024  
Page 2 of 4

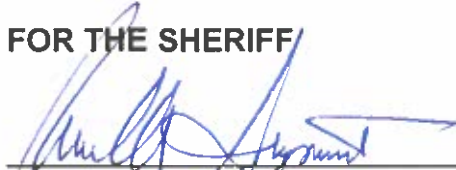
7. The City agrees to maintain all communications, computer, and records management hardware and software currently owed by the City during the life of this contract, utilizing the City's Information Technology (IT) support staff, or, at the discretion of the Sheriff, an outside vendor may be utilized if the City's IT support staff is unable to provide necessary repair(s) or suitable resolution(s) to any malfunctions of City owned equipment. City agrees to pay the costs of any outside vendor utilized to repair the City's equipment; and
8. Each party acknowledges and agrees that each party possesses liability insurance to cover the acts of its employees, agency, and elected officials, and therefore will not indemnify or name the other as an insured within its own liability coverage; and
9. This constitutes the entire contract between the parties and is subject to interpretation in accordance with the laws of the State of Ohio.

**RENEWAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO  
AND THE  
ERIE COUNTY, OHIO SHERIFF  
FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHING SERVICES  
FOR THE CITY OF SANDUSKY POLICE, FIRE, AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS**

January 1, 2024  
Page 3 of 4

**SIGNATURE PAGE**


**FOR THE SHERIFF**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Paul A. Sigsworth  
Erie County Sheriff

**FOR THE CITY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Orzech  
Sandusky City Manager

**APPROVAL AS TO FORM**

 11-15-23  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gerhard Gross  
Erie County Prosecutor's Office  
Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
Civil Division

**APPROVAL AS TO FORM**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Stewart Hastings  
Law Director  
City of Sandusky

**APPROVAL OF LEGISLATIVE BODY**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick J. Shenigo, President  
Erie County Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mathew R. Old, Vice President  
Erie County Commissioner

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Shoffner  
Erie County Commissioner

**RENEWAL CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SANDUSKY, OHIO  
AND THE  
ERIE COUNTY, OHIO SHERIFF  
FOR THE PROVISION OF PUBLIC SAFETY DISPATCHING SERVICES  
FOR THE CITY OF SANDUSKY POLICE, FIRE, AND SERVICE DEPARTMENTS.**

January 1, 2024  
Page 4 of 4

**CERTIFICATION OF AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS**

I, Michelle Reeder, Finance Director of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, hereby certify that the funds necessary to meet the terms of this contract have been lawfully appropriated for the purpose of this contract, and those funds are in the treasury of the City of Sandusky, Ohio, or are in the process of collection to the credit of that appropriation, free from prior encumbrance.

---

Michelle Reeder  
Finance Director  
City of Sandusky

EXHIBIT "A"