**ORDINANCE NO.: 2019-02**

**AN ORDINANCE CREATING AND ESTABLISHING THE VILLAGE OF**

**BELLE CENTER CREDIT CARD POLICY AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY**

WHEREAS, House Bill (H.B.) 312 of the 132nd General Assembly, Section 1, as codified and made applicable to the Village through O.R.C. § 717.31, sets forth regulations and requirements for local government entities and political subdivisions to adopt a written policy for the use of credit card accounts; and

WHEREAS, H.B. 312 establishes new safeguards for credit card use and seeks to reduce credit card abuse for all local government entities and citizens across Ohio; and

WHEREAS, specifically, H.B. 312 requires the Village to adopt a written policy for the use of credit card accounts addressing all of the following: (1) the officer or positions authorized to use a credit card account; (2) the types of expenses for which a credit card account may be used; (3) the procedure for acquisition, use, and management of a credit card account; (4) the procedure for submitting itemized receipts; (5) the procedure for credit card issuance, reissuance, cancellation, and the procedure for reporting lost or stolen credit cards; (6) each credit card account’s maximum credit limit; and (7) the actions or omissions by an officer or employee that qualify as misuse of a credit card account; and

WHEREAS, all local government entities must adopt a written policy addressing these requirements by no later than three months after the effective date of H.B. 312, or by no later than January 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Belle Center has never adopted a written credit card policy regulating the use of Village credit card accounts by its officers and employees; and

WHEREAS, the Village must enact a written credit card policy in order to comply with these new requirements under H.B. 312 and codified by O.R.C. § 717.31; and

WHEREAS, Council for the Village of Belle Center now wants to create and establish a credit card policy for the purpose of reflecting the requirements now in effect under H.B. 312, safeguarding the Village against credit card fraud and abuse, and promoting responsible acquisition, management, and use of Village credit cards.

NOW, **THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF BELLE CENTER, LOGAN COUNTY, OHIO THAT:

SECTION 1: Council for the Village of Belle Center hereby creates and establishes the Village of Belle Center, Ohio Credit Card Policy as set forth in the document attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

SECTION 2: Council hereby expressly declares that the Village of Belle Center, Ohio Credit Card Policy attached hereto as Exhibit A shall serve as the exclusive written policy of the Village for the use of credit card accounts and shall apply to all employees, officers, and departments of the Village.

SECTION 3: 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 Council and that all deliberations of the Council and any of the decision making bodies of the Village of Belle Center which resulted in such formal actions were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements of the State of Ohio.

SECTION 4: All prior legislation, or any parts thereof, which is/are inconsistent with this Ordinance is/are hereby repealed as to the inconsistent parts thereto.

SECTION 5: Council declares this to be an emergency measure immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety of this Village and the further reason that enactment of the Village Credit Card Policy must take effect immediately, given the implementation deadline of January 31, 2019 established by H.B. 312.

Passed in Council this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2019.

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Teresa Johnston, Mayor

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Rhonda Fitzpatrick, Fiscal Officer