

RECORD OF LEGISLATION

No. 12.81.2025

Passed 12-2, 20 25

AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT A CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code section 9.64, enacted through House Bill 96, the city is required to adopt a cybersecurity program that safeguards its data, IT systems, and resources to ensure confidentiality, availability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, the law mandates use of generally accepted cybersecurity best practices, including frameworks such as the NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology) Cybersecurity Framework and the Center for Internet Security ("CIS") best practices; and

WHEREAS, Council, having reviewed the recommendation of the City's IT Coordinator, the City hereby adopts the CIS Critical Security Controls as its foundational cybersecurity controls framework and doing so will be in the best interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Circleville.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CIRCLEVILLE, COUNTY OF PICKAWAY, STATE OF OHIO AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION I. The City of Circleville hereby adopts the CIS Critical Security Controls as its official cybersecurity framework. These controls represent a prioritized set of actions proven to defend against the most common cyber threats and will form the basis of the City's cybersecurity program.

SECTION II. The City's cybersecurity program shall implement the CIS Critical Security Controls, focusing on managing assets, protecting sensitive data, controlling access, securing, and updating systems, defending against malware and vulnerabilities, monitoring logs, and networks, responding to incidents, training employees, and ensuring third-party providers meet security standards. These measures represent the most effective first steps in reducing cyber risk, particularly against ransomware and phishing, and are designed for local governments of our size to achieve practical, affordable, and measurable security improvements while remaining aligned with state and federal best practices.

SECTION III. The City shall begin by implementing the CIS Controls at the Implementation Group 1 (IG1) level to establish essential cyber hygiene. The City will then adopt Implementation Group 2 (IG2) safeguards to strengthen its defenses. The cybersecurity program shall be reviewed annually to assess progress, update practices, and ensure alignment with evolving threats, best practices, and State requirements under Ohio Revised Code section 9.64.

SECTION IV. That it is 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 actions were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION V. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the City of Circleville, the immediate emergency being the necessity to adopt a cybersecurity program to be in compliance with ORC Section 9.64; therefore, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor.

PASSED: 12-2-2025
DATE

Bryan D. Kuhn
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

ATTEST: Melissa A. Smith
CLERK OF COUNCIL

APPROVED: 12-2-2025
DATE

Michael Y. Blanton
MAYOR

APPROVED AS FORM: [Signature]
KENDRA C. KINNEY - LAW DIRECTOR