

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - 037

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE NEW DESIGN FOR AN OFFICIAL FLAG FOR THE CITY OF KENT, OHIO, REPEALING RESOLUTION 1975-155, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, City Council appointed a Flag Committee on June 15, 2022 to propose design specifications that designers should follow when submitting proposals for a new city flag; and

WHEREAS, the Committee received 68 designs from 33 contributors, from in and out of the City; and

WHEREAS, the Committee ultimately decided on its top 3 designs and submitted those for a vote of the public; and

WHEREAS, the designs received 812 votes and the Committee recommended the flag that received the most votes be adopted as the City's new flag.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Kent, Portage County, Ohio:

SECTION 1. That Council hereby adopts the new design for an official flag for the City of Kent, Ohio, and is more fully described in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SECTION 2. Resolution 1975-155, passed on October 15, 1975, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption 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 of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 4. That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety and welfare of the residents of this City, for which reason and other reasons manifest to this Council this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure and shall take effect and be in force immediately after passage.

PASSED: June 21, 2023
Date



Jack Amrhein
President Pro Tem

EFFECTIVE: June 21, 2023
Date

ATTEST: Amy Wilkens
Amy Wilkens, CMC
Clerk of Council

I, AMY WILKENS, CLERK OF COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF KENT, COUNTY OF PORTAGE, AND STATE OF OHIO, AND IN WHOSE CUSTODY THE ORIGINAL FILES AND RECORDS OF SAID COUNCIL ARE REQUIRED TO BE KEPT BY THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF OHIO, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND EXACT COPY OF RESOLUTION No. 2023-037, ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT ON June 21, 2023.

(SEAL)



AMY WILKENS, CMC
CLERK OF COUNCIL



- A burgee-shaped flag pays homage to the State of Ohio flag and reflects Kent's original flag.
- Blue signifies determination, liberation, alertness and good fortune. It also symbolizes the Cuyahoga River and canals, which were a central piece of Kent's past and a point of charm and appeal in modern times.
- Green is a symbol of agricultural influence, prosperity, fertility, youthfulness and hope. It also serves to symbolize Kent's status as the Tree City.
- White, the symbol of peace and harmony, reflects Kent's history of seeking peace and harmony locally and globally.
- The simple modern design is meant to suggest Kent's goal of civic progress and the city's forward-looking spirit.
- The converging stripes form an eight-pointed star that symbolizes the North Star, which was used on quilts that guided slaves escaping captivity. It also symbolizes Kent's history of inclusion, diversity and forward thinking.
- The green vertical center stripe and intersecting blue diagonal stripes form the letter "K." All the stripes point to the central star, forming arrows that are meant to point to the future.
- The four stripes, both green and blue, are meant to recall Kent's history, from pre-settlement, settlement and canal era, railroad era, and university founding. They are also meant to celebrate Kent's intersection of cultures that come together to form a cohesive yet diverse community.