AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA AMENDING SECTIONS 2-318, 2-319 AND 2-320 OF THE NORMAN CITY CODE TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS APPOINTED TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY BOARD, ENSURING WARD-SPECIFIC REPRESENTATION, EXPANDING SPECIFIED EXPERTISE FOR A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS, AND ADDING TO THE DUTIES AND POWERS OF THE BOARD; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SEVERABILITY THEREOF.

§ 1. WHEREAS, the Economic Development Advisory Board was created in 2013 to advise the City Council on matters related to economic development policies, opportunities, and requests for City-funded incentives of private businesses, as well as other economic development items that may be requested by City Council; and

§ 2. WHEREAS, City Council has recently discussed various economic development policies and proposals and desires to amend the composition of the Economic Development Advisory Board to ensure there is representation from each ward in the City, while also maintaining expertise on the Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA:

§ 3. That, Section 2-318 of the Code of the City of Norman, Oklahoma be amended to read as follows:

2-318 Created; Composition of Membership

(a) Composition. There is hereby created the Economic Development Advisory Board of the City of Norman, Oklahoma. Such Economic Development Advisory Board shall be composed of eleven (11) members, at least seven (7) of whom possess suitable and appropriate knowledge and/or experience in the areas of economics, business, finance, law, policy analysis, community development, small business ownership, or other relevant experience. Effective August 14, 2027, membership of the Economic Development Advisory Board shall be reduced to nine (9) total members.

(b) Ward Representation. Of the total membership, at least one resident shall be appointed representing each of the City's eight wards, either by residency or by ownership or management of a business located within the ward. If a qualified candidate for a specific ward is not identified within forty-five days of a seat becoming vacant, the Mayor may nominate a qualified candidate from another ward.

(c) In addition to the members set forth in (a) above, the Executive Director of the Cleveland County Economic Development Coalition or his or her designee shall

serve on the Economic Development Advisory Board in a non-voting ex-officio capacity.

§ 4. That, Section 2-319 of the Code of the City of Norman, Oklahoma be amended to read as follows:

2-319 Quorum and Operation

(a) *Quorum.* At any meeting of the Economic Development Advisory Board, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members appointed under NCC 2-318(a). No action shall be taken in the absence of a quorum.

(b) *Meeting.* The Economic Development Advisory Board shall meet as needed in the furtherance of its duties set forth herein.

(c) *Board officers.* The Economic Development Advisory Board shall elect one member to be its Chairperson, and one member to be its Vice-Chairperson.

§ 5. That Section 2-320 of the Code of the City of Norman, Oklahoma be added to read as follows:

Sec. 2-320 Duties and Powers of the Board

(a) The Economic Development Advisory Board shall generally act in an advisory capacity to City Council with regards to economic development policies, opportunities, and requests for City-funded incentives of private businesses and shall investigate other economic development related items as requested by City Council.

(b) The Economic Development Advisory Board shall specifically:

(1) Make recommendations to City Council regarding proposed economic development policies and programs;

(2) Make recommendations to City Council regarding requests for City-funded incentives for private businesses as proposed by the Norman Economic Development Coalition;

(3) Aid City Council in developing strategies and plans for promoting economic development in the City of Norman;

(4) Investigate and report on economic development issues as assigned by the City Council;

(5) Serve as a forum for economic development policy discussion and education;

(6) Assist in identifying assets, resources, and incentives appropriate for furthering economic development within the City of Norman; and

(7) Review the Economic and Risk Analysis associated with proposed TIF projects and make a recommendation thereon as required by Section 12-704 of the Code.

§ 6. Implementation and Transition Plan. To ensure continuity, the transition from the current board structure to the ward-specific structure shall be phased in as current member terms naturally expire, according to the following schedule:

(a) Retention of Incumbents. All current members of the Economic Development Advisory Board serving as of the effective date of this Ordinance shall be permitted to serve out the remainder of their unexpired terms.

(b) Vacancies/ Term Expiration. Upon the effective date of this Ordinance, the Mayor, with the consent of Council, shall appoint four additional members who reside in wards not currently represented on the Board. Thereafter, vacancies shall be filled in a manner so as to ensure each ward is represented on the Board, with one member serving in an at-large capacity.

§ 7. Severability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase 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 of this ordinance, except, that the effective date provision shall not be severable from the operative provisions of the ordinance.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA THIS ___ DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026.

THE CITY OF NORMAN, OKLAHOMA

ATTEST:

_____
Mayor

_____
City Clerk