

VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS
ORDINANCE 2025-131

**AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
BETWEEN MORRILL AND FIEDLER, LLC AND THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS AT AN
ANNUAL COST OF \$66,000 FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2026 AND 2027**

WHEREAS, the Village of Vernon Hills, County of Lake, State of Illinois (*"the Village"*) is a duly organized and existing municipality and unit of local government created under the provisions of the laws of the State of Illinois, and is operating under the provisions of the Illinois Municipal Code; and

WHEREAS, the Village's current two (2) year agreement with Morrill & Fiedler expired at the end of December 2025. Morrill has provided assistance in Springfield working with legislators and monitoring proposed legislative actions on the Village's behalf since 2009.

WHEREAS, Morrill has provided an updated two (2) year agreement with a proposed annual fee of \$66,000 and will hold this rate over both years of the contract.

WHEREAS, the Village has worked with Morrill & Associates for 16 years. The firm has served the Village well.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS, LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS, AS FOLLOWS:**

SECTION 1: EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT: The Village Manager is authorized to execute an extension of the December 8, 2009 Professional Services Agreement under which Morrill and Fiedler, LLC provides the Village of Vernon Hills with Illinois government relations services during the calendar years of 2026 and 2027, subject to Village attorney's approval.

SECTION 2: AUTHORIZATION & RELEASE OF PAYMENT: The Finance Director is authorized to make payments to Morrill and Associates P.C. in the amount of \$5,500 per month for a total annual cost of \$66,000 to begin on January 1, 2026 and end on December 31, 2027.

SECTION 3: EFFECTIVE DATE: This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from its passage and approval.

SECTION 4: ORDINANCE NUMBER: This Ordinance shall be known as Ordinance Number 2025-131.

Dated this 9th day of December 2025.

Adopted by roll call votes as follows:

AYES: 7 – Marquardt, Oppenheim, Forster, Schenk, Takaoka, Lundeen, Koch

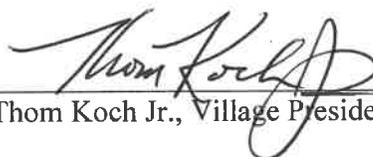
NAYS: 0 - None

ABSENT AND NOT VOTING: 0 – None

PASSED: 12/09/2025
APPROVED: 12/09/2025
ATTEST: 12/09/2025


Kevin Timony, Village Clerk




Thom Koch Jr., Village President

ATTACHMENT A
EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT



November 11, 2025

Via Email

Kevin Timony
Village Manager
Village of Vernon Hills
290 Evergreen Drive
Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Re: Extension of Professional Services Agreement between Morrill & Fiedler, LLC and the Village of Vernon Hills for Government Relations Representation During Calendar Years 2026 and 2027

Dear Kevin:

This letter agreement extends the existing professional services agreement dated December 8, 2009, and incorporates herein the terms of the December 8, 2009, agreement and all subsequent extension agreements, under which Morrill & Fiedler, LLC ("M&F") will provide the Village of Vernon Hills ("VHILLS") with Illinois government relations services during calendar years 2026 and 2027.

By execution of this letter, the parties agree to extend the agreement for Illinois governmental relations services for an additional 24-month period – with this extension running from January 1, 2026, until December 31, 2027. The monthly rate shall remain at the rate of \$5,500 per month (for a total of \$66,000 annually); however, if events warrant an increased role for M&F during the term this agreement, the parties shall discuss a possible increase in the fee, which may only occur via a subsequent writing executed by both parties.

During the 2026 and 2027 regular and veto legislative sessions, and during any special session that may occur, M&F will continue to construct a comprehensive legislative user file for VHILLS (including 24/7/365 access to any VHILLS official who desires), and provide guidance to VHILLS regarding the types of substantive legislative, executive, and administrative issues of concern to VHILLS that would be subject to ongoing lobbying services, including:

- Continued discussions with IDOT and VHILLS' state legislators to help secure the release of funding for their respective member-initiative capital projects impacting the Village, along with efforts to obtain new member initiatives, and release of funding for improvements along Route 45 pursuant to IDOT's multi-year highway improvement program.

433 W. Edwards St., Springfield, IL 62704
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www.smorrill.com • 217-789-5411

- Monitoring SB 1937 of the 104th General Assembly, and all bills of similar nature, proposing to reform the Tier 2 benefit structure for local police and fire pension systems and advocating the position of VHILLS with elected officials. Continued monitoring of legislation impacting municipal finances and workplace policies (e.g., local pension benefits, prevailing wage, fair work week and paid leave policies).
- Working with state and local officials on ensuring VHILLS has adequate mass transit services and representation after enactment of mass transit consolidation and reforms pursuant to enactment of SB 2111 of the 104th General Assembly.
- Monitoring the administrative implementation of recreational (or “adult use”) cannabis in Illinois, and any subsequent legislative changes to the program made by the Illinois General Assembly.
- Monitoring legislation pertaining to state tax policy and tax distribution to local governments.
- Monitoring legislation regulating the use or prohibition of plastic bags by Illinois retailers.
- Monitoring legislation impacting local economic development tools (e.g., TIF district reform proposals, Enterprise Zones, DCEO program funding, STAR Bonds) and working with state agency officials on proposed projects qualifying for state incentives.
- Monitoring legislation impacting affordable housing requirements, utilization of “crime free” and “nuisance” ordinances, restrictions on local regulation of e-bikes, and criminal justice and policing reforms.
- Monitoring legislation pertaining to the regulation of small cell service and the potential impacts on Village right-of-way.

In addition to the scope and services outlined in previous engagement agreements, M&F will continue its efforts in building strong relationships between VHILLS and the Illinois General Assembly, Governor J.B. Pritzker and his senior administration personnel, state agency directors, and senior personnel within the agencies – including but not limited to the Office of the Governor, Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Secretary of State, and Illinois Department of Revenue.

The engagement agreement dated December 8, 2009, and subsequent extension letters are available to VHILLS upon request. Please indicate your acceptance of and agreement to the terms of this letter agreement by signing below and returning one original copy, fully executed.

Very truly yours,



Stephen S. Morrill
MORRILL & FIEDLER, LLC

AGREED AND ACCEPTED:



Kevin Timony
VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS

VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-131

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT BETWEEN MORRILL AND FIEDLER, LLC AND THE VILLAGE OF
VERNON HILLS AT AN ANNUAL COST OF \$66,000 FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2026 AND
2027

THE 9th DAY OF DECEMBER 2025

Published in pamphlet form by the Authority of the
President and Board of Trustees of the Village of
Vernon Hills, Lake County, Illinois, this
9th day of December, 2025

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)
COUNTY OF LAKE)

I, KEVIN TIMONY, BEING FIRST DULY APPOINTED, DEPOSES AND SAYS ON OATH THAT AS VILLAGE CLERK OF THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS, HE DID CAUSE THE FOREGOING CERTIFICATE FOR ORDINANCE NO. 2025-131 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN MORRILL AND FIEDLER, LLC AND THE VILLAGE OF VERNON HILLS AT AN ANNUAL COST OF \$66,000 FOR CALENDAR YEARS 2026 AND 2027 TO BE POSTED IN THE VILLAGE HALL AS REQUIRED BY LAW FROM DECEMBER 9, 2025 TO DECEMBER 23, 2025.



Kevin Timony, Village Clerk

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
THIS 9th DAY OF DECEMBER, 2025



Notary Public

