

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**January 6, 2025**

A Caucus was held prior to the meeting to discuss Agenda items. Council members Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite were present.

Councilman Schmidt called the 2025 Council Organizational Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Councilwoman, District 1 Rita Darrow was re-elected President and Councilwoman, At-Large Erin Dickinson was re-elected Vice President.

Summit County Clerk of Courts Tavia Galonski performed the ceremonial swearing-in of District 5 Council Member Brandon Ford.

The following items were addressed before Council at the Caucus:

- 2025-001 Marvin Evans from the Law Department addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2025-002 Phil Montgomery from the Executive's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2025-003 Phil Montgomery from the Executive's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.

The Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 04:44 PM in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL- Present: Mrs. Darrow, Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Donofrio, Mr. Ford, Ms. Higham, Mr. Kacyon, Mr. Licate, Mrs. McKenney, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Walters, Mr. Wilhite; Absent:

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MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: Mr. Wilhite moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting(s) held December 9, 2024.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Minutes were approved 11-0.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL INTEREST:

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXECUTIVE:

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICEHOLDERS:

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## **MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

**M-001-2025 A Motion of Council confirming the appointment of Larry Brown (replacing Chief Scott Cottle) as alternate to Sheriff Kandy Fatheree to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board.**

Movant - Ms. Darrow

Ms. Walters moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney,  
Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Motion M-001-2025 was adopted.

**M-002-2025 A Motion amending the Council Rules by adding section 12.02, entitled *Council Security* establishing certain security measures for Council.**

Movant - Ms. Darrow

Mr. Wilhite moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney,  
Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Motion M-002-2025 was adopted.

## **FIRST READINGS**

- 2025-001     **A Resolution approving a collective bargaining agreement between Ohio Council 8 and Local 1229 of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO (Common Pleas Court, Adult Probation Department Unit), and the Summit County Court of Common Pleas, General Division for the period of 10/1/24 through 9/30/27, for the Court of Common Pleas, General Division, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Ms. Higham moved to suspend Council Rule 8.01 (A): the requirement of three readings at a Regular Council meeting.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Ms. Higham moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Resolution 2025-001 was adopted.

- 2025-002     **A Resolution appropriating funds in order to meet projected expenditures for the balance of 2024 as set forth in Exhibit A, for the Executive's Department of Finance and Budget, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Mr. Donofrio moved to suspend Council Rule 8.01 (A): the requirement of three readings at a Regular Council meeting.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Mr. Donofrio moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Resolution 2025-002 was adopted.

- 2025-003     **A Resolution appropriating funds in order to meet projected expenditures for the balance of 2025 as set forth in Exhibit A, for the Executive's Department of Finance and Budget, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Mr. Donofrio moved to suspend Council Rule 8.01 (A): the requirement of three readings at a Regular Council meeting.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Mr. Donofrio moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

Yes: Darrow, Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Resolution 2025-003 was adopted.

- 2025-004     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids and to enter into a cooperative agreement with Northfield Center Township concerning the Bayberry Drive Drainage and Roadway Improvements Project, at an estimated cost not to exceed \$1,060,900.00, with no County funds involved, located in Northfield Center Township, in Council District 1, for the Executive and the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-005     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute an extension to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Akron for the boarding at the Summit County Jail of misdemeanor offenders charged under a City of Akron ordinance or charged with contempt of an Akron Municipal Court Judge, for a term of six-months, from January 1, 2025 to June 30, 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$2,464,348.50, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-006      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Grant Agreement with The Greater Akron Chamber Foundation (“GACF”), to provide a local funding match to the State of Ohio’s Innovation Hubs Program Grant for the Greater Akron Polymer Innovation Hub project, for a three-year term, from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2027, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 per year, for a total amount not to exceed \$750,000.00, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-007      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive, subject to the approval of the Board of Control, to execute a Professional Services Agreement with The Greater Akron Chamber to provide economic development services, including but not limited to business attraction and retention, workforce growth, economic inclusion, and facilitation of economic development ecosystem initiatives, from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2025 in a total amount not to exceed \$110,000.00, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-008      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a lease agreement with Torchbearers, an Ohio non-profit corporation, for educational and/or charitable use, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-009      **A Resolution declaring the month of February 2025 as Black History Month in Summit County, recognizing the incredible accomplishments made by Black Americans in the face of adversity, as well as acknowledging the challenges of the present, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Mr. Ford

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-010      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute amendments to grant agreements with the Cleveland Clinic Foundation and the Summa Hospital Foundation to provide additional funding for the implementation of the county-wide Unite Us data sharing platform, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 per foundation, for a total amount not to exceed \$200,000.00 of Opioid Settlement Dollars, for the Executive, the Opiate Abatement Advisory Council and the Key Stakeholders Group, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-011      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Subaward Agreement with Direction Home Akron Canton Area Agency on Aging & Disabilities to continue the provision of additional services to Summit County Residents and continue one pilot program to assist older adults with aging in place, from 10/1/24 through 12/31/25, in a total amount not to exceed \$3,200,000.00, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-012      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for Non-Emergency Medical Transportation providers, for a one-year term, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$6,350,000.00, for the Executive's Department of Job and Family Services, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-013      **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a grant agreement with the Akron Marathon Charitable Corporation, in the amount of \$35,000.00 per year, for a two-year period for a total amount of \$70,000.00, for the Executive and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

- 2025-014      **A Resolution determining to proceed with submitting the question of the Issuance of Library Improvement Bonds, in the aggregate principal amount of \$160,000,000.00 to the electors residing within the boundaries of Akron-Summit County Public Library, pursuant to Sections 133.18 and 3375.43 of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net

Committee First Readings

Presentation of New Business:

Presentation of Petitions to address Council:

**Executive Session**

Motion By:

Seconded By:

Motion Type:

For:

Against:

Abstain:

Absent:

Outcome:

Call To Order:

Reason:

Adjournment: Council adjourned at 5:20 pm. The next regular meeting will be held January 27, 2025 at 4:30 pm

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this County Council were conducted in an open public meeting this 6th day of January, 2025.

**Signed by:**

*Monique Willis*

CLERK OF COUNCIL

**DocuSigned by:**

*Rita J. Darrin*

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL