

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 2, 2026**

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

Public Relations Committee members from the Western Reserve Area of Narcotics Anonymous provided a presentation to Council.

Phil Montgomery from the Executive’s Office of Finance and Budget presented a financial update to Council.

Apostlett Pamela addressed Council with a public comment.

The following items were addressed before Council at the Caucus:

- 2026-043 John Galonski from the Prosecutor's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2026-044 Ms. McKenney and Mr. Ford addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2026-045 Phil Montgomery from the Executive’s Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- M-019-2026 Dr. Tania Lodge addressed Council on this motion.
- M-020-2026 Deborah Matz addressed Council on this motion.

The Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 05:18 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, Mr. Wilhite; Absent: Ms. Walters

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: Mrs. Darrow moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting(s) held February 9, 2026.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Minutes approved 10-0.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL INTEREST:

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXECUTIVE:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICEHOLDERS:

MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL

M-019-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the appointment of Dr. Tania Lodge to the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board (ADM Board).

Movant - Ms. Dickinson

Ms. Higham moved to recommend passage.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Motion M-019-2026 was adopted.

M-020-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the appointment of Deborah Matz (replacing Andrea Norris) to the Human Resource Commission.

Movant - Ms. Dickinson

Mr. Schmidt moved to recommend passage.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Motion M-020-2026 was adopted.

FIRST READINGS

2026-043 **A Resolution setting a date for this Council, pursuant to Section 709.03 of the Ohio Revised Code and Section 125.01(i) of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, to conduct a public hearing to consider the annexation of 1.01 acres of land in Coventry Township to the City of Barberton, for Council, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Ms. Walters

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, Wilhite

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Ms. Higham moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Resolution 2026-043 was adopted.

2026-044 **A Resolution supporting the bipartisan state legislation Ohio House Bill 163 and Ohio Senate Bill 315 – together referred to as the “Enact the Enhanced Cybersecurity for SNAP Act” – legislation to protect Ohio’s Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) recipients from the issue of electronic theft and fraud, for County Council, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Ms. McKenney, Mr. Ford, Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Wilhite, Ms. Higham, Council as a Whole

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

Mr. Ford 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, Wilhite

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Mr. Ford moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Resolution 2026-044 was adopted.

2026-045 **A Resolution appropriating funds in order to meet projected expenditures for the balance of 2026 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, Wilhite

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Mr. Donofrio moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Resolution 2026-045 was adopted.

2026-046 **A Resolution enacting a 4% salary increase for current non-bargaining, classified and unclassified employees of the Clerk of Courts, Council, Engineer, Executive, Fiscal Officer, Human Resource Commission, Internal Audit Department, Office of Information Technology, Prosecutor, and Sheriff, effective March 23, 2026, for the Executive's Department of Human Resources, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-047 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a grant agreement with the Summit Soil and Water Conservation District in the amount of \$300,000.00 for services to the Surface Water Management District and pursuant to the County's MS4 permit, 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

2026-048 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract with The Osborn Engineering Company for engineering design services for the reconstruction of South Main Street and the replacement of the South Main Street Bridge over the Feeder Canal near Vaughn Road, located in the City of Akron and Coventry Township, in Council District 8, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-049 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with A&H Equipment Co., at Sourcewell Pricing, for one new Ford T350 Transit Truck with a mounted minicam Storm Sewer Inspection System, in a total amount not to exceed \$248,000.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-050 **A Resolution confirming an award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with Wingfoot Rental and Development Co., Inc., for Project Q-836-1 Pump Station No. 82 Replacement and Force Main Replacement, located in the City of Tallmadge, in Council District 6, in an amount not to exceed \$1,865,285.00, for the Executive's Department of Sanitary Sewer Services, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-051 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a lease-purchase agreement with Brown Equipment Company, under TIPS cooperative purchasing association pricing, for a five-year term, for a 2026 Peterbilt Vacuum Tank Truck, which will be financed through Republic First National Corporation, at an interest rate of 4.97%, for a total amount not to exceed \$307,260.00, for the Executive's Department of Sanitary Sewer Services, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-052 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Enterprise Fleet Management, Inc., as a Best Practical Source, for the buy-out of 27 vehicle leases, in an amount not to exceed \$38,816.77, for the Executive's Departments of Sanitary Sewer Services and Community & Economic Development, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-053 **A Resolution confirming awards of the Board of Control of various Community Development contracts and authorizing the Executive to disburse funds, including those that exceed an aggregate of \$75,000.00, to Community Development contractors operating under contract with the Executive's Department of Community and Economic Development for housing programs in calendar year 2026, for the period of 1/1/26 through 12/31/26, in an estimated total amount not to exceed \$13,190,330.00, for the Executive's Department of Community and Economic Development, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-054 **A Resolution confirming awards of the Board of Control of various Community Development contracts and authorizing the Executive to disburse funds, including those that exceed an aggregate of \$75,000.00, to Community Development contractors operating under contract with the Executive's Department of Community and Economic Development for the Home Weatherization Assistance Program (HWAP) program in HWAP Fiscal Year 2026, for the period of 7/1/25 through 6/30/26, in an estimated total amount not to exceed \$4,841,485.00 for the Executive's Department of Community and Economic Development, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-055 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the Department of Public Safety and Emergency Management Build Out Project, located in the City of Tallmadge, in Council District 6, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$1,500,000.00, for the Executive’s Department of Administrative Services–Physical Plants and Department of Public Safety, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-056 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute any documents necessary to accept the award from the Ohio Department of Public Safety’s Office of Criminal Justice Services of an Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant, for the period 1/1/26 through 12/31/26, in an amount not to exceed \$117,030.32, with a 25% local cash match requirement in an amount not to exceed \$39,010.07, for a total amount not to exceed \$156,040.39, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-057 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Hall Public Safety Co. for the purchase of up fit equipment for fifteen new vehicles, at Public Cooperative Purchasing Pricing, in an amount not to exceed \$183,306.60, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-058 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Montrose Auto Group for the purchase of fifteen 2026 Ford Explorer Police Interceptors, at State Term pricing, in an amount not to exceed \$662,949.00, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-059 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Montrose Auto Group for the purchase of two 2026 Chevy Traverse AWD vehicles, at CUE pricing, in an amount not to exceed \$84,863.72, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings

2026-060 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for payroll services for youth and adult employment programs, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$3,000,000.00, 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

2026-061 **A Resolution declaring the month of March 2026 as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month in Summit County, recognizing people with developmental disabilities for their contributions to our community and their perseverance in breaking down barriers, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-062 **A Resolution declaring the month of March 2026 as Women’s History Month in Summit County, recognizing the women of America, the achievements they have made, and the struggles they have faced and continue to face today, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-063 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with ZixCorp Systems, Inc., at GSA Co-op Pricing, for Office365 service with Zix/AppRiver/OpenText as a Cloud Solution Provider, for a one-year term, from 4/12/26 through 4/11/27, in an amount not to exceed \$286,250.40, for the Office of Information Technology, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

Routine Agenda Motion(s)

Mr. Schmidt 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, Wilhite

Absent: Walters

Motion passed

Mr. Schmidt moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed

Routine Agenda was adopted 10-0.

ROUTINE LEGISLATION UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO BY COMMITTEE

2026-028 **A Resolution approving the salary adjustments for certain classified non-bargaining employees based upon job performance, increased responsibilities in their job duties and pay equity, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-028 was adopted.

2026-029 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a renewal (second of three) of a professional service contract with Arcadis US, Inc. for an engineering services task order, for a one-year term, from 1/1/26 to 12/31/26, in an amount not to exceed \$175,000.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-029 was adopted.

2026-030 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to enter into agreements for the acquisition of standard highway easements over portions of Parcel Number 1908969 and Parcel Number 1910298, located in Coventry Township, in Council District 8, in a total amount not to exceed \$16,900.00, as part of the Portage Lakes Drive Culvert Replacement Project, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-030 was adopted.

2026-031 **A Resolution approving the general plan for Project Q-194 Chittenden Road and Boston Commons Sanitary Sewer Extension, determining that the Project is necessary for the preservation and promotion of the public health and welfare, determining that special assessments shall be levied and collected to pay the cost for the Project, and directing the Executive through her Department of Sanitary Sewer Services to prepare, or cause to be prepared, detailed plans, specifications, and an estimate of cost for the Project, together with a tentative assessment of the cost based on the estimate, located in the Village of Boston Heights, in Council District 3, for the Executive’s Department of Sanitary Sewer Services, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-031 was adopted.

2026-032 **A Resolution approving and accepting a resubdivision titled “Heartridge Subdivision Phase 1 - R,” located in Sagamore Hills Township, in Council District 1, for the Executive’s Planning Commission and the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-032 was adopted.

2026-033 **A Resolution revising the assessments for the parcels of Heartridge Subdivision Phase 1, located in Sagamore Hills Township, in Council District 1, for drainage maintenance, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-033 was adopted.

2026-034 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with Control Concepts of Ohio, LLC, at GSA Co-op Pricing, for the Juvenile Court HVAC Controls Upgrade Project, for the Juvenile Court Building, located in the City of Akron, in Council District 6, in an amount not to exceed \$251,660.86, for the Executive’s Department of Administrative Services–Physical Plants, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-034 was adopted.

2026-035 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Norton, and other governmental entities within the County of Summit, for the provision of services by the Sheriff's Major Crime Scene Investigative Unit, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-035 was adopted.

2026-036 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive, on behalf of the Sheriff, to execute Special Weapons and Tactics ("SWAT") Team Mutual Aid Agreement with the Summa Health Police Department and the City of Akron, as authorized by section 5502.41 of the Ohio Revised Code, for the Executive and Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-036 was adopted.

2026-037 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with WEX Bank, at Sourcewell pricing, for fleet fuel card services and miscellaneous small vehicle expenses, in an amount not to exceed \$350,000.00, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-037 was adopted.

2026-039 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 1 to a professional service contract with Isaac, Wiles, Burkholder, & Teeter, LLC., in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$90,000.00 (for a cumulative increase of 80%), towards the costs of continued legal representation and services on behalf of the County, in the matter of City of Barberton v. Summit County, Ohio, et al., for the Executive and Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-039 was adopted.

2026-040 **A Resolution providing for the issuance and sale of an amount not to exceed \$12,500,000 of notes of the Akron-Summit County Public Library District, in anticipation of the issuance of bonds, for the purpose of constructing, adding to, renovating, remodeling, furnishing, equipping and otherwise improving library buildings and facilities, and acquiring, clearing and improving the sites thereof, for Council, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-040 was adopted.

2026-041 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute any documents necessary to accept 2026 Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) Energized Community Grants, in the amount of \$8,035.00, with no local cash match requirement, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-041 was adopted.

2026-042 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a contract renewal with Tyler Technologies, as a Best Practical Source, for Enterprise Asset Management, for a one-year term, from 3/1/26 to 2/28/27, in an amount not to exceed \$338,596.00, for the Office of Information Technology, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-042 was adopted.

SECOND READINGS

2026-038 **An amended Resolution authorizing the Executive to sign intergovernmental agreements with the cities of Akron, Cuyahoga Falls, New Franklin, Norton, Stow, Tallmadge, and Twinsburg as well as the ~~Village of Norton~~ and Copley Township for direct indictment services to be provided by the Prosecutor, for a two-year term, from 1/1/26 through 12/31/26, with four one-year renewals at the amounts set forth below, for the Prosecutor, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Mr. Licate moved to amend the legislation.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Mr. Licate 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, Wilhite

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Mr. Licate moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0

Resolution 2026-038 was adopted.

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 5:31 pm. The next regular meeting will be held March 16, 2026 at 4:30 pm

All deliberations concerning official business and formal actions by this County Council were conducted in an open public meeting this 2nd day of March, 2026.

Signed by:

Monique Willis

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Signed by:

Erin Dickinson

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL