

**COUNTY OF SUMMIT**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 11, 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.

Ms. Walters arrived at 4:40 PM, following the call to order.

Pamela Pinkney addressed Council with a public comment.

The following items were addressed before Council at the Caucus:

2026-143 Phil Montgomery from the Executive's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.

M-032-2026 John Petures addressed Council on this motion.

The Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 04:37 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

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MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: Mrs. Darrow moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting(s) held April 27, 2026.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Walters

The Minutes were approved 10-0.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL INTEREST:

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ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXECUTIVE:

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICEHOLDERS:

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**MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

M-029-2026 **A Motion of Council confirming the reappointment of Georjette Thomas to the Humane Commission.**

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-029-2026 was adopted.

**M-030-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the reappointment of Dennis Ragins to the Special Operations Response Team Executive Board.**

Movant - Ms. Dickinson

Mr. Licate 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-030-2026 was adopted.

**M-031-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the reappointment of Angela Neeley to the Akron-Summit County Public Library 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-031-2026 was adopted.

**M-032-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the appointment of John Petures (replacing Jack Diamond) to the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Board (ADM Board).**

Movant - Ms. Dickinson

Mr. Wilhite 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-032-2026 was adopted.

**FIRST READINGS**

2026-143     **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 2026-143 was adopted.

2026-144     **A Resolution approving a salary adjustment for classified non-bargaining employee, Elizabeth Kisner, for the Prosecutor, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-145     **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with American Roadway Logistics, Inc. for the 2026 Summit County Regional Pavement Marking Program, in an amount not to exceed \$416,704.70, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-146     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a five-year sublease agreement with the Summit Soil and Water Conservation District for office space located at 1180 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio, in Council District 4, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro  
Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-147     **A Resolution approving and authorizing the Executive to execute and submit the Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Program 2026 Action Plan to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for program year 2026, authorizing the Executive to execute the 2026 Community Development Block Grant and HOME Investment Partnership Program contracts, and authorizing the Executive to execute any documents and submit any information necessary to meet the urban qualification period for 2027-2029, 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
- 2026-148     **A Resolution authorizing the Court of Common Pleas – General Division to make additional expenditures, in the amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, for hospitality items for events to be held in 2026, for the Court of Common Pleas – General Division, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro  
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-149     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive, pursuant to Section 177.13 of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, to increase the purchase aggregate total for calendar year 2026 with nine Non-Emergency Medical Transportation service providers operating under contract with the County of Summit, for the 2026 Federal Fiscal Year, from 10/1/25 through 9/30/26, in an amount not to exceed \$11,000,000.00, 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
- 2026-150     **A Resolution declaring Friday, June 5, 2026 as Gun Violence Awareness Day in Summit County to honor and remember the victims and survivors of gun violence and to join in calling for the prevention of gun violence by wearing orange, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Ms. Dickinson, Ms. Walters  
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings

2026-151     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a settlement agreement and release, for an amount not to exceed \$87,500.00, to settle any and all claims arising out of or concerning issues raised in the lawsuit, Gregory Taylor v. Kandy Fatheree, et al., for the Executive and the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

2026-152     **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company dba RR Donnelley, as a Best Practical Source, for printing and mailing services for the 2026 sexennial property valuation mailers, in an amount not to exceed \$207,531.00, for the Fiscal Officer, 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, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed

Mr. Schmidt moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Motion passed

The Routine Agenda was adopted 11-0.

**ROUTINE LEGISLATION UNANIMOUSLY AGREED TO BY COMMITTEE**

2026-125     **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to enter into a cooperative agreement with Cuyahoga County and the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District concerning the Vaugh Roadway - Highland Roadway and the Cuyahoga River Bridge Improvement Project, at an estimated cost to the County of \$2,300,000.00, located in Sagamore Hills Township, in Council District 1, for the Engineer and the Summit County Surface Water Management District, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-125 was adopted.

2026-126     **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 3 to a professional design services agreement with Burgess & Niple for various engineering, storm water calculations, surveying, environmental and adjunct services for the study and preliminary design of the Northfield Center Twp Drainage Study and Improvements for the Dorwick and Marwyck Drive areas, located in Northfield Center Township, in Council District 1, in an amount not to exceed \$65,551.00 (for a cumulative increase of 52.82%) for a total amount not to exceed \$369,539.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-126 was adopted.

2026-127 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 3 to a professional design services agreement with Verdantas LLC formerly CT Consultants, Inc., for the Springfield Lake Watershed Study, located in Springfield Township, in Council District 8, in an amount not to exceed \$19,760.00 (for a cumulative increase of 34.90%) for a total amount not to exceed \$271,685.12, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-127 was adopted.

2026-128 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with Cistones Excavating Services, LLC for the 2026 Summit County Culvert Replacement Program, in an amount not to exceed \$224,728.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-128 was adopted.

2026-129 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to enter into agreements for the acquisition of standard highway easements over portions of Parcel Numbers 4503095, 4500868, and 4504223 located in Sagamore Hills Township, in Council District 1, in a total amount not to exceed \$900.00, as part of the Chaffee Road Culvert Replacement Project, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-129 was adopted.

2026-130 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with Pavement Technology, Inc. for the 2026 Summit County Regional Asphalt Rejuvenating Program, in an amount not to exceed \$183,288.84, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-130 was adopted.

2026-131 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to enter into a Cooperative Funding Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of New Franklin, for the County’s local share contribution payment in an amount not to exceed \$385,000.00, to fund the S.R. 93 Sewer Extension Project (“Project Q-834-2D”) located in the City of New Franklin, in Council District 7, 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 2026-131 was adopted.

2026-132 **An Amended Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute an Agreement with the City of Norton, setting forth the scope of duties, manner of performance, and all essential terms and conditions whereby the County shall enforce Part Thirteen of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, entitled “Building Code,” which incorporates the 2019 Residential Code of Ohio and the 2014 ~~2024~~ Ohio Building Code, on behalf of and within the territorial jurisdiction of the City of Norton, located in Council District 7, for the Executive’s Department of Sanitary Sewer Services-Division of Building Standards, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-132 was adopted.

2026-133 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a five-year sublease agreement with the City of Akron, for office space located at 1180 South Main Street, Akron, Ohio, 44301, in Council District 4, for base rent and a portion of the operating expenses, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-133 was adopted.

2026-134 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service agreement with Summit Psychological Associates, Inc., to provide transitional services for opiate involved individuals at the Jail, for the term of 4/1/26 through 12/31/26, in an amount not to exceed \$400,000.00, for the Executive’s Department of Public Safety, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-134 was adopted.

2026-135 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 2 to a purchase contract with Avertest, LLC dba Averhealth for on-site drug screen testing services, from 12/15/24 through 12/14/25, with an amount not to exceed \$16,919.90, (for a cumulative increase of 37.84%), for a total amount not to exceed \$297,485.90, for the Court of Common Pleas-General Division, Adult Probation Department, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-135 was adopted.

2026-136 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to sign an Intergovernmental Direct Indictment Program Agreement with the City of Barberton, from 5/1/2026 through 12/31/26, with four options to renew for an additional one-year term, 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

Resolution 2026-136 was adopted.

2026-137 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2026 as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Awareness Month in Summit County and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Mr. Licate, Mrs. Darrow, Mrs. McKenney,  
Mr. Ford, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-137 was adopted.

2026-138 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2026 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Summit County and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-138 was adopted.

2026-139 **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2026 as Foster Care Month in the County of Summit and encouraging residents to join in this acknowledgement and consider the importance of foster care in their community, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-139 was adopted.

2026-140     **A Resolution declaring the month of May 2026 as Older Americans Month in Summit County, recognizing the contributions of older adults in Summit County and encouraging residents and professionals to participate in the Age-Friendly Akron-Summit initiative and the 2026 Senior Summit Conference and Expo, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-140 was adopted.

2026-142     **A Resolution approving the new classification, classification specification and salary schedule for the non-bargaining, classified position of Mental Health Coordinator, #40041, and revising the County's 2026 Staffing Report to include two staffing positions, for the Sheriff and the Executive's Department of Human Resources, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Resolution 2026-142 was adopted.

## **SECOND READINGS**

2026-124     **A Resolution approving salary adjustments for various classified non-bargaining employees, for the Prosecutor, 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: Dickinson, Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Abstain: Darrow

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Ms. Higham moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Abstain: Darrow

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Resolution 2026-124 was adopted.

2026-141     **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract with Ward & Associates for appraisal services for the valuation of commercial, industrial, and exempt buildings considered new or altered, and land splits of the same classification, for the 2026 real estate tax year, in an amount not to exceed \$171,300.00, for the Fiscal Officer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Mr. Wilhite 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, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Abstain: Donofrio

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Mr. Wilhite moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Abstain: Donofrio

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Resolution 2026-141 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 4:46 pm. The next regular meeting will be held June 1, 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 11th day of May, 2026.

Signed by:

*Monique Willis*

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Signed by:

*Erin Dickinson*

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL