

COUNTY OF SUMMIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 3, 2026

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.

The Summit County Fiscal Office provided Council with an update on the county-wide reappraisal process.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas addressed Council with a public comment.

The following items were addressed before Council at the Caucus:

- 2026-198 Marvin Evans from the Law Department addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2026-199 Brian Harnak from the Law Department addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2026-200 Jennifer Tultz from the Prosecutor's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.
- 2026-201 Phil Montgomery from the Executive's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.

The Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 04:55 PM in Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL- Present: Mrs. Darrow, Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Ford, Ms. Higham, Mr. Kacyon, Mr. Licate, Mrs. McKenney, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Walters, Mr. Wilhite; Absent: Mr. Donofrio (Arrived subsequent to the roll call at 4:56 PM).

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: Ms. Walters moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting(s) held June 29, 2026.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Absent: Donofrio

The Minutes were approved 10-0.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL INTEREST:

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXECUTIVE:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICEHOLDERS:

MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL

M-041-2026 A Motion of Council amending the Council and Committee meeting calendar for the remainder of 2026 by removing the Council meeting scheduled for August 31, 2026 and adding a Council meeting for August 24, 2026.

Movant - Ms. Dickinson

Ms. Walters moved to recommend passage.

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-041-2026 was adopted.

FIRST READINGS

- 2026-198 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a collective bargaining agreement between The Fraternal Order of Police, Ohio Labor Council, Inc. (Supervisor Unit), and the County of Summit, for the period of 1/1/26 through 12/31/28, for the Executive and the Sheriff, 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 2026-198 was adopted.

- 2026-199 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract for cyber liability insurance coverage, for a one-year term, from 7/1/26 through 7/1/27, in an amount not to exceed \$79,602.50, payable through Wichert Insurance Services, Inc. dba Wichert Insurance, as a Best Practical Source, for the Executive's Department of Law and Risk Management, 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 2026-199 was adopted.

2026-200 **A Resolution declaring the month of August 2026 as Child Support Awareness Month in Summit County, recognizing that child support is crucial to keeping children and families healthy and strong and encouraging the residents of Summit County to join in this acknowledgement and to wear green on Wednesday, August 5, 2026, for the Prosecutor and the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, 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, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Mr. Ford 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 2026-200 was adopted.

2026-201 **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, 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 2026-201 was adopted.

- 2026-202 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a construction contract with Karvo Companies, Inc., for the Springside Drive Sidewalk Project, located in Bath Township, in Council District 5, in an amount not to exceed \$615,525.25, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-203 **A Resolution ratifying Project Q-194 Chittenden Road and Boston Commons Sanitary Sewer Extension (“Project Q-194”), and the character and termini thereof, the boundaries of the assessment district, and the tentative assessment as approved in Resolution No. 2026-031, declaring the determination of this Council to proceed with construction of Project Q-194, provided for in Resolution No. 2026-031, and authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the construction of Project Q-194, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$610,684.50, and apply for and execute a loan agreement with the Ohio Water Development Authority for a loan in an amount not to exceed \$650,000.00, to fund the project, 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
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-204 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Grant Agreement with the Downtown Akron Development Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$700,000.00, to provide funding to support downtown economic development services and the Knight Creative Project, over a three-year term, 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
- 2026-205 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the Safety Building Rooftop HVAC Unit Replacement Project, located in the City of Akron, in Council District 4, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$643,600.00, 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
- Committee First Readings

- 2026-206 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids to provide inmate food services for the Jail, for the period 12/1/26 through 11/30/27, with four options to renew for an additional one-year term, for an estimated cost not to exceed \$1,000,000.00, for the first year, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-207 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for a Hazmat truck for the Summit County Special Operations Team, Hazardous Materials Branch, for an estimated total amount not to exceed \$1,400,000.00, for the Executive's Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Agency, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-208 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract, subject to the approval of the Information Technology Board, with Mission Critical Partners, for consulting services, in an amount not to exceed \$149,012.00, 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
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-209 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a settlement agreement and release, for an amount not to exceed \$235,000.00, to settle any and all claims arising out of or concerning issues raised in the lawsuit, Stacy Clark v. Kandy Fatherree, et al., for the Executive and the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Ms. Walters
Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-210 **A Resolution declaring the month of August 2026 as National Immunization Awareness Month, recognizing the individual and community benefits of receiving immunizations, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Ms. Walters
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-211 **A Resolution declaring the day of August 22, 2026 as Summit County Pride Day, encouraging residents to celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community and the Akron Pride Festival and Equity March, for the Executive, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Ms. Walters
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings

Presentation of New Business:

Presentation of Petitions to address Council:

Executive Session

Motion By: Ms. Walters

Seconded By:

Motion Type: Roll Call Vote

For: Mrs. Darrow, Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Ford, Ms. Higham, Mr. Kacyon, Mr. Licate, Mrs. McKenney, Mr. Schmidt, Ms. Walters, Mr. Wilhite

Against:

Abstain:

Absent:

Outcome: 11-0

Call To Order: 5:04 PM

Reason: To discuss pending litigation Stacy Clark v. Kandy Fatheree, et al.

Adjournment: Council adjourned at 5:40 pm. The next regular meeting will be held August 17, 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 3rd day of August, 2026.

Signed by:

Monique Willis

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Signed by:

Erin Dickinson

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL