

COUNTY OF SUMMIT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
August 17, 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.

Donte Cargill, founder of Patricia Ann Cargill Charities, presented an update to Council.

A public hearing took place to consider the annexation of 2.17 acres of land in Richfield Township to the Village of Richfield.

Paul Schweikert and Dave Pasquale addressed Council with a public comment.

The following items were addressed before Council at the Caucus:

2026-212 Phil Montgomery from the Executive's Office addressed Council on this first reading passage request.

M-043-2026 David Vargo addressed Council on this motion.

The Council Regular Meeting was called to order at 05:01 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:

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL: Ms. Higham moved to approve the minutes of the regular Council meeting(s) held August 3, 2026.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

The Minutes were approved 11-0.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF GENERAL INTEREST:

ANNOUNCEMENT FROM EXECUTIVE:

ANNOUNCEMENT OF OFFICEHOLDERS:

MOTIONS FOR COUNCIL

M-042-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the appointment of David Vargo (replacing Shana Earle) to the Development Finance Authority Board.

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-042-2026 was adopted.

M-043-2026 A Motion of Council confirming the reappointment of Dr. Albert Bragg to the Public Defender 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, Walters, Wilhite

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 11-0

Motion M-043-2026 was adopted.

FIRST READINGS

- 2026-212 **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 2026-212 was adopted.

- 2026-213 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract with Accordware, LLC, as a Best Practical Source, to continue services with the current online benefits administration platform, for a five-year term, for a total amount not to exceed \$675,000.00, for the Executive's Department of Human Resources, Division of Employee Benefits, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-214 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a professional service contract with ImpaxRx, as a Best Practical Source, to continue services enhancing efficiency in pharmaceutical cost management and support ongoing cost-containment initiatives, for a three-year term, for a total amount not to exceed \$930,000.00, for the Executive's Department of Human Resources, Division of Employee Benefits, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-215 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Ports Petroleum Company, Inc. for unleaded and diesel fuel for general fleet operations, at CUE pricing, for a one-year term, from 1/1/26 through 12/31/26, in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00, for the Engineer, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-216 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Member Community Infrastructure Grant Program Agreement with the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District, in an amount not to exceed \$597,658.83, with a 50% local cash match requirement in an amount not to exceed \$597,658.83, for Project Q-186 Elimination of Hudson Sanitary Sewer Overflow Area L, located in the City of Hudson, 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

- 2026-217 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a Second Amendment to an Agreement with the Portage County Board of Commissioners for Portage County to contribute to the costs for Project Q-453 Fishcreek Wastewater Treatment Plant #25 Digester Improvements, located in the City of Stow, 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

- 2026-218 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the construction of Project Q-620 Summit County Fairgrounds Sanitary Sewer Improvements, located in the City of Tallmadge, in Council District 6, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$620,267.00, 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

- 2026-219 **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 2.201 acres of land in Richfield Township to the Village of Richfield, for Mansfield Fuel & Food Mart, LLC, for Council, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Ms. Walters

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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-220 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the Jail Door Controls Project, located in the City of Akron, in Council District 4, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$1,900,000.00, 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
- 2026-221 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to advertise for bids for the Jail Generator Replacement Project, located in the City of Akron, in Council District 4, for an estimated total cost not to exceed \$700,000.00, 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
- 2026-222 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of a purchase contract with Vasu Communications, Inc., at State Term pricing, for the purchase of fifty (50) radios for the Jail, in an amount not to exceed \$162,042.00, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee Motions for Committee
- 2026-223 **A Resolution declaring August 2026 as National Emergency Management Awareness Month in Summit County and encouraging residents to recognize the emergency managers in every sector who work diligently to prepare, protect, and serve our communities against all hazards, risks, and disasters, for the Executive and Council, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Kent Starks, (330) 643-2074, kstarks@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings
- 2026-224 **An Ordinance amending Section 113.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, entitled “Criminal Background Checks, Fingerprinting Fee, and Sex Offender Registration Fee,” to increase fees for BCI and FBI processing, for the Sheriff, and declaring an emergency.**
- Sponsor - Executive Shapiro
Staff Contact: Mark Potter, (330) 643-2726, mpotter@summitoh.net
- Committee First Readings

- 2026-225 **A Resolution confirming the award by the Board of Control of Change Order No. 1 to a professional service contract with Thompson Hine LLP, in an amount not to exceed \$105,000.00, for a total amount not to exceed \$155,000.00 (for a cumulative increase of 210.00%), for the continuation and completion of legal work to establish the Support Organization with Akron Community Foundation and other opiate settlement funds related issues, 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

Committee First Readings

- 2026-226 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a two-year intergovernmental agreement, on behalf of the Executive's Department of Job and Family Services, with various County entities for the continued operation and management by the Summit County Combined General Health District d.b.a. Summit County Public Health of the Summit 2030 Quality of Life Project, for the period 1/1/27 through 12/31/28, in a total amount not to exceed \$260,000.00, of which the County's share will be an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00, 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

- 2026-227 **A Resolution declaring August 31, 2026, Overdose Awareness Day in Summit County, raising awareness of the opioid epidemic and asking residents to join in remembering and mourning the lives lost due to the epidemic, 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

- 2026-228 **A Resolution declaring September 15, 2026, as National Voter Registration Day in Summit County encouraging the citizens of Summit County to register to vote, to ensure their voter registration is up to date, and to celebrate democracy by exercising their right to vote, for the Executive and Council, and declaring an emergency.**

Sponsor - Executive Shapiro, Ms. Walters

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

- 2026-202 **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

Resolution 2026-202 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-203 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-205 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-206 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-207 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-208 was adopted.

- 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

Resolution 2026-209 was adopted.

- 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, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-210 was adopted.

- 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, Council as a Whole

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

Resolution 2026-211 was adopted.

SECOND 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

Ms. Walters 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, McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

Abstain: Licate

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Ms. Walters moved to adopt.

Voice Vote on the motion.

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

Abstain: Licate

Motion passed - Voice Vote: 10-0-1

Resolution 2026-204 was adopted.

Presentation of New Business:

Presentation of Petitions to address Council:

Executive Session

Motion By: Ms. Walters

Seconded By:

Motion Type:

For: Mrs. Darrow, Ms. Dickinson, Mr. Donofrio, 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: 4:51 PM

Reason: To discuss security at the jail.

Adjournment: Council adjourned at 5:50 pm. The next regular meeting will be held August 24, 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 17th day of August, 2026.

Signed by:

Monique Willis

CLERK OF COUNCIL

Signed by:

Erin Dickinson

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL