

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-006

2

3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

4

5 DATE January 6, 2025 COMMITTEE Planning

6

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

13

14 WHEREAS, the Greater Akron region has been recognized as the Sustainable Polymers  
15 Tech Hub of the United States due to the work of the Polymer Industry Cluster, of which the  
16 County of Summit is a Cornerstone Partner; and

17

18 WHEREAS, the goal of the Polymer Industry Cluster’s efforts is to leverage the region’s  
19 existing world-class assets in the polymer industry and academic institutions, and to emphasize  
20 its unique and valuable cross-sector collaboration, all to catalyzing new growth and accelerating  
21 impactful innovations; and

22

23 WHEREAS, the Greater Akron Chamber Foundation has applied for, and the State of  
24 Ohio has awarded \$31.25 million in grant funding from the State’s Innovation Hubs Program  
25 (the “State Funding”) in order to help fund the Greater Akron Polymer Innovation Hub project,  
26 which is being led by the Polymer Industry Cluster through the GACF; and

27

28 WHEREAS, in order to access the full State Funding amount, GACF is obligated to obtain  
29 and pledge an additional \$10.4 million in matching local funds (the “Local Funding”); and

30

31 WHEREAS, the Executive wishes to enter into a Grant Agreement with the GACF in  
32 order to contribute to the Local Funding, for a three-year term, from 1/1/2025 through  
33 12/31/2027, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 per year, for a total amount not to exceed  
34 \$750,000.00, in order to support these and other initiatives; and

35

36 WHEREAS, as part of this Agreement, the County of Summit will be recognized as a key  
37 supporter of the GACF’s work in our region; and

38

39 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent information,  
40 that the aforementioned professional service contract with the Greater Akron Chamber  
41 Foundation is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit

42

43 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State  
44 of Ohio, that:

45

46 SECTION 1

47

48 The Executive is authorized to execute Grant Agreement with The Greater Akron  
49 Chamber Foundation to provide a local funding match to the State of Ohio’s Innovation Hubs  
50 Program Grant for the Greater Akron Polymer Innovation Hub project, for a three-year term,  
51 from 1/1/2025 through 12/31/2027, in an amount not to exceed \$250,000 per year, for a total  
52 amount not to exceed \$750,000.00, and the Executive is hereby authorized to execute any other

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2025-006

2 PAGE TWO

3

4 SECTION 1 (CONT.)

5

6 necessary related documents.

7

8 SECTION 2

9

10 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and  
11 welfare of the residents of the County of Summit, and for the further reason to immediately  
12 approve the aforementioned Grant Agreement in order to enable to the Chamber Foundation to  
13 receive the full grant funding from the State of Ohio.

14

15 SECTION 3

16

17 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take  
18 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take  
19 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

20

21 SECTION 4

22

23 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating  
24 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all  
25 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,  
26 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section  
27 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

28

29

30 INTRODUCED January 6, 2025

31

32 ADOPTED January 27, 2025

33

Signed by:  
*Monique Willis*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CLERK OF COUNCIL  
5660EF400F5451...

DocuSigned by:  
*Rita J. Darrow*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL  
182A45B69D28448...

34

35

36

37

38 APPROVED January 27, 2025

39

DocuSigned by:  
*Gene Shapiro*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
EXECUTIVE  
36CB3E0F287473...

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson,  
Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate,  
McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite

40

41

42

43 ENACTED EFFECTIVE January 28, 2025