

March 25, 2021

PROCEEDINGS

Lordstown Village Council Special Meeting

(WHEREAS, the special meeting before the Lordstown Village Council commenced on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. and proceedings were as follows:)

MAYOR HILL: It's 6:00. I call the special Council meeting to order. Bill, if we could have roll call.

MR. BLANK: Mayor Hill?

MAYOR HILL: Present.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Bond?

MR. BOND: Here.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Liming?

MR. LIMING: Here.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Radtka?

MR. RADTKA: Present.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Campbell?

MR. CAMPBELL: Here.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Sheely?

MR. SHEELY: Here.

MR. BLANK: Mr. Reider?

MR. REIDER: Present.

MR. BLANK: Clerk Blank, present.

MAYOR HILL: I'll entertain a motion for adoption of the agenda.

MR. RADTKA: So moved.

MR. LIMING: Second.

MAYOR HILL: Moved by Radtka; second by Liming. Comments?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)
All in favor?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR HILL: Opposed?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

(VOTE: 6, AYE; 0, NAY; 0, ABSTAINED.)

Motion carried.

Purpose of the special meeting: Lordstown Village Council will conduct a special Council meeting to be held at the Administration Building, Council Chambers, on Thursday, March 25, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. to discuss Internet issues and discuss water distribution for Ultium Cells. Which one wants to go first?

MR. RADTKA: It's up to you, Arno. It doesn't matter to me.

MAYOR HILL: We'll go with water distribution first since Chris is here, so he can get out of here.

MAYOR HILL: You know, there's been some concerns. I'm sure everybody saw the letter from General Motors, the funding issues and things like that. Chris, if you want to take the floor and bring us up to speed on, you know, where we're at with that. I know General Motors—we tried to go for CARES Act money, tried to go for five million and that kept getting bumped up and that didn't occur. Now, if anybody is aware of the way the economy is going, the cost of steel, wood, building products, they're all going through the roof. So, that's why we're here to discuss, you know, some of our funding options to see if we can get—you know, should we try to go for more funding to try to assist in this project?

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One thing which Ultium Cells has said, you know, we were going for a three-million gallon tank. We wouldn't be going for a tank if it weren't for the project. But that tank is bigger than what we need just for that project, so there's a little bit of a discrepancy as far as do we try to get some more funding? I would like some input from Council. And, also, I think I'm going to turn this over to the Utility Committee seeing that it's a utility. You know, I've been the contact person. But, you know, I'm just one person. I won't be voting on it. So, I'm going to be turning this over to the Utility Committee.

Chris, if you could let us know how the funding is going. I will tell you I know we were supposed to have \$1.5 million from Ohio Developmental Services Agency. We have not had that verified yet. Am I correct when I say that, Chris? Correct.

MR. KOGELNIK:
MAYOR HILL:

And we're getting three million in claw back money. Ultium Cells said, "Well, we could get water from other sources cheaper." The Board of Public Affairs and, I believe, Council has let them know, you know, where we want to buy and sell the water from and to. So I'd like—Council have any questions?

MR. BOND:

If they were building something in Warren, do you think Warren would give us permission to run water into their city? I don't think so.

MAYOR HILL:
MR. BOND:

I agree with that, Bob.

It sounds like with this project, we're where we should have been with LEC. Should have probably had them go with a water tower and stuff.

MR. KOGELNIK:
MR. BOND:
MR. KOGELNIK:

We did. If I may interrupt you.

Sure.

That was the first words out of our mouths when they came to town. We had strongly recommended to Bill Siderewicz to do that. We questioned his direction on the water tower. We said, we think that you do need a water tower for a variety of reasons. He gave all kinds of reasons back and, eventually, he won.

MR. BOND:

I mean, maybe we should have stuck to our guns on that and made him buy his water through us, too, instead of the adder deal we ended up with.

MR. KOGELNIK:
MAYOR HILL:
MR. KOGELNIK:

If I may?

Yeah. You can have the floor.

It's a good starting point, actually, because with LEC, we didn't understand exactly the entire water system in a comprehensive manner like we do today because the BPA and the Village had authorized us to do a master water plan. What that allowed us to do was to basically see the entire Village and understand the existing needs of the water distribution system, how it behaved, etc. And, also, since the time of LEC, we have been able to catch our breath, so to speak, and understand, okay, this is how this big user is working with the system. Then, at that time, we had Ultium coming up, and it was actually the last minute for when you would do a master water plan. Now, as Bill stated in a prior meeting, you can't plan around these mega users. It's almost impossible. The Village has had such unbelievable growth

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and good luck in attracting these mega businesses that happen to draw a lot of water that I don't know any community that would be able to say, okay, this is what we're going to have in five or ten years. You would have never known this.

So, with LEC, we did see, hey, wait a second. They're going to need up to five and a half million gallons of water a day. How is that going to happen? Well, you know, us engineers, Ohio EPA teaches us and our water design guidelines teach us, when you bring in a gallon of water to a community, you should have a gallon of storage for 24 hours. Well, the Village had a draw of approximately 450,000 gallons a day before LEC came to the Village, that's aside from General Motors because that was being fed by Warren. So, you had a 500,000 gallon tank. You were good. LEC comes in and builds a facility that can draw up to about five, five and a half MGD on a hot day. Do they need water storage? We questioned that. And, like I said, they eventually won. They believed they didn't need one, so we went one step further in offering our left arm and we basically devoted a 24-inch water line to them. Okay? Are we smarter now today? I hope.

MR. BOND:

MR. KOGELNIK:

Hell yeah. So, the master water plan is done. And we have a plan for the future. And that plan allows for not only the Ultiums, not only the LECs, not only the TECs, but your undeveloped properties to get water in a reliable manner. It's up to this entire board with the Board of Public Affairs—who's not here today—to come to an understanding that this is what you need. You need to agree on a vision for the Village. Okay? And that's hard to do with the variables that this Village is challenged with. I definitely understand that. But, nonetheless, you do have a plan that you had commissioned and we're done with it. You can adjust the plan. But, I think that right now, you know, for what you guys have for the industries coming in, you have a solid plan. Some people would question that, hey, wait a second, the Battery Plant needs a peak of around 2 MGD, two million gallons a day, water on a hot day. Why are we building a three-million gallon storage facility? Well, number one, the Village and this district of the Village floats off of that tank. So, Meander pushes the water through your transmission line, up the tank and then the tank develops pressure for this district. Okay? There's no other service lines coming off that transmission line and there shouldn't be, for good reason. So, everything floats off of that tank. Ultium's demand is met by way of that tank. Furthermore, we said to everybody at the beginning of this design, one of the benefits of that tank is just the height that we're going to position it at. And we're also going to give it another million gallons because we can then push water north along 45, west along Salt Springs, and feed Ellsworth Bailey where we have undeveloped property. Just because it's there we're going to do that. And, so, we were very clear with Ultium, with the Village, with the BPA to say that that storage tank is there not only for Ultium, but for the Village. Okay? So, if that's a fact, we showed our cards.

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There's nothing to hide there, so if somebody wants to question that, they should rewind their cassette tape and go back and understand where all of that came from. The master water plan said that. All right? So that's what that tank does.

Now, let's talk about what that tank does versus what the money was that we had requested from US EDA. One of the complaints that US EDA had back to us in the debrief of the application was the fact that they only saw in the application that that tank benefited one customer, Ultium. That was incorrect. The application actually did shine light on the fact that that tank pushes water further west along Ellsworth Bailey to undeveloped property to open up development along there. Whether or not they took the time to read through that is a whole other matter. But one thing that our application did not include, typically, you have letters of support for prospective developers, existing business that can write a letter to say, yeah, you know your volume of water, your pressure, that helps to keep my employees here. That's called job retention. US EDA loves that term. Okay? We didn't do any of that, and we did ask for that to happen. Anytime you're asking for money—I think Kellie probably knows. She's probably pursued grants before—it's always great to have a letter that says, hey, this business wants it. This is a good reason. Ultium didn't really—we had to coax Ultium to give us a letter like that. They should have been pushing us for all of that. That didn't happen. We asked for that letter from Ultium. We ended up getting it and tucking it in our application, but we didn't have the other letters. That was, I guess, everybody's fault.

So, yes, the application started off at around a five million ask and that was around June. And then we started understanding the scope of this project, and, yes, the costs did increase as we went from June to September. We ultimately submitted the application, I believe, right after the election in November—general election. It would have been ideal to submit it before the general election. And I'm going to take some cake for that. But, the fact is, is that we had several things that we learned were wrong with the application.

And I have to say this—I'm going to just say it like it is—US EDA didn't give us a whole lot of help in a September conversation when Mayor was on the phone and Paul Dutton was on the phone with us with Eastgate. They were looking for shovel-ready projects that had a pretty big price tag. We gave them that. And then they come back around in the debrief and they stated that they were looking for smaller chunks of projects so that they can distribute more projects. That makes sense, too, but that's not what we heard.

So, right now, what we have done, as Mayor stated, we've submitted a US EDA app that didn't go. I told Council, promised to them that I'd go to Eastgate, meet with them, find out what their perspective was on submitting another round of US EDA applications through their Public Works Program instead of Covid relief. And, I reported back to Council that Eastgate suggested not to do that because they

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didn't think it would be fruitful for us to do that. I trust them because they are the liaison with US EDA. So, I came back and informed you guys of that. I have not given up. I contact ODSA on a monthly basis and ask them if they're still committed to the project. Thus far, all that they would do is verbally reply back and say, yes, they are committed to the project. We don't have a piece of paper that says you've been awarded any funding, though. That's what we're waiting on.

Last night I submitted another appropriations request to Congressman Ryan's office. This one was for five million, and I earmarked it for the tank. The tank right now has an estimated cost that will be published on the bid documents of \$7.41 million. I don't know where that's going to come in at, but we did originally estimate that the tank was going to be a lot less than that, probably around six million, I think. So, we'll have to see where that comes in, but the fact of the matter is this: In the past couple months, everybody has learned about the stimulus money. And everybody is now starting to get back to work. My biggest fear right now with many projects is the fact that we're going to start to see a shortage of supply materials, contractors, and we're going to see some inflation. I don't think it's hit the street that much yet. It has in the price of lumber, definitely, amongst some other products. But we don't deal with lumber, and as I reported to you, we don't really see a price increase right now with pipe for waterline or elements like that. Fortunately, for our region, we've always had very ultra—competitive construction costs from our contractors, yet we get good construction from them.

So, I don't expect that the second phase of the waterline is going to be exorbitant, but my fear is the water tank, with its specialty elements, and also the water booster station may see a higher price. That's my concern. I'm just being clear with that.

So, we'll have to see what Congressman Ryan's appropriation request amounts to. But the Biden Administration announced just yesterday, from what I understand, something unbelievably significant, which is a three trillion dollar bill that they are promoting for infrastructure. I'm not saying exactly infrastructure—but I don't know the term that they had—printing more money and giving it to everybody for these water and sewer projects. It's good for a variety of reasons, but it's going to drive up prices. We'd be fools to think otherwise.

I have put in a lot of time with trying to find money for this project, even though the developer is committed to a dollar amount on the master agreement. Keep in mind, changes happen. On every construction project, the master agreement contains a provision for change orders. So, the Village—I don't want to say is protected, but the Village has a means to accommodate change and so does the stakeholder, the investor, in this particular case, and that is Ultium.

What else can I help you with?

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MAYOR HILL: Are there any questions from Council because it's going to be going to Utility Committee. There's three on there. I'll be there whenever I can but—are there any questions from Council on this? I just wanted everybody to see where we're at.

MR. LIMING: When you say it's coming to the Utility Committee, what do you mean it's coming to the Utility Committee?

MAYOR HILL: The issue on this project for Ultium water and everything, I've been handling it all. And it should have been the Utility Committee right off the bat. And because everything is going on, I'm getting bombarded. There's three people on the Utility Committee. I'm only one person. So, I'm going to call the Utility meeting and working with Chris and—

MR. LIMING: The Village of Lordstown doesn't have this money. So I don't understand where we're going here.

MAYOR HILL: I think all the decisions—you know, I can't make a decision —

MR. LIMING: Right. I understand that.

MAYOR HILL: The Utility Committee can.

MR. LIMING: I understand—

MAYOR HILL: The Utility Committee should take a look at this, work in conjunction with Chris. If there's legislation that needs brought in for change orders or contracts or anything, that comes from Village Council. I've been the go-to guy on almost all these projects. The BPA—the Village has always funded all the new projects, and that's always gone through a Utility Committee of Council. It's kind of defaulted to me for the last several years. Right now, my hands are—I'm full.

MR. LIMING: I understand that, but I don't know how we're going to get any money. I mean, we already gave them three million of that claw back money. We guaranteed them no money, right?

MR. KOGELNIK: Correct—

MR. LIMING: Is that right, Chris?

MR. KOGELNIK: We didn't guarantee them a dollar. I did guarantee them, and I did promise them, that I would pursue heavily the funding —

MR. LIMING: You fulfilled that, didn't you?

MR. KOGELNIK: I'm not even done, yeah.

MR. BOND: It's an ongoing thing.

MR. LIMING: It's ongoing, but—

MAYOR HILL: Instead of having full Council meetings like this, I think on occasion there should be Utility Committee meetings because even though the BPA runs the Water Department, the Village has always put in the water lines. They've always put in the sewer lines and then they've turned them over. Well, I'm only one person.

MR. LIMING: I just want to understand where we are on this. But what I get from Chris here is the Village is protected. When we passed that Ordinance, the way I understand Mr. Dutton said if we didn't get those grants, it was Ultium's project to pay the price—

MR. KOGELNIK: Pay full price. It says that explicitly.

MR. LIMING: And we got them three million—we didn't, but the state gave

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MR. RADTKA: them three million of claw back money, so—
And there still could be one and a half—

MAYOR HILL: What I'm saying is whenever issues come up on this project, instead of me being the middle man and relaying it to Council, Utility Committee can sit there and make the decisions. And I'll probably attend the Utility Committee meetings.

MR. LIMING: All right.

MAYOR HILL: That's what I'm saying.

MR. LIMING: Okay. I just wanted to know where we're at—

MR. KOGELNIK: Can I suggest something? Mayor, you are the face of the Village, obviously, and the people outside of this building that represent the industries know to call you. You're just too convenient. The next project that we have we should set the table so that they can understand that there's another entity within the Village that basically ——

MAYOR HILL: Will be working alongside all of us.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. So they can have a point of contact there that receives all those messages that you normally would get.

MAYOR HILL: I'll probably still get them because I'm the one who is—but, you know, as far as we're going to have to bring Council in on this because it all can't go through me.

MR. KOGELNIK: Right, no. I'll be honest with you. It is way too much right now. He should not have to handle technical matters. It's just unheard of for a mayor to handle technical matters for a project like this and to this magnitude. So, I would recommend we do that. You know, the last project we had with LEC, Bruce took on a lot more active role even though it was purely technical, but they knew to go to him for technical issues. And Bruce had a way to, you know, most of the time—

MAYOR HILL: Coordinate.

MR. KOGELNIK: Coordinate that or direct that to the right person. We need that on the next job. You will have a next job. We don't know exactly what it's going to be. It might be TEC. I don't know. But all I'm saying is we have a kick-off meeting, identify the people that you'll be working with and they'll be having a team, too. But right now it is, it's a lot. The Mayor is handling a lot.

MR. BOND: Well, I think everybody's concern on Council is there's just no way that we can step forward and pick up and intercede on a water tower. We don't have to and I don't think we should or have any desire to—

MAYOR HILL: But a lot of the dialogue was going back and forth, like, between Chris and I and then I have to pass it on. Normally, I'll pass it on to Ronnie or something like that, but I don't vote on—if there's a change order or anything like that, a lot of the dialogue should be going through the Utility Committee. I know in the past when they ran a lot of waterlines—and that was way before me in the '80s, you know, the Utility Committee handled almost all of that. And it should have been there in the beginning. It's been convenient for me to do that because I have been the one-point person. I'll still probably be a point person but then it will also be the Utility Committee and Council for that.

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MR. KOGELNIK: Right. For example, Ultium has a government affairs person. That would be a good match for Mayor to talk with on that basis. And then underneath here, there's the technical people that, you know—Travis even has to have an active role in this, along with Darren and Kellie. So, that has to be—that just—it wasn't done the way it was done with LEC and it needs to be on the next project.

So that's where we're at. I did say that I'm not done with seeking funding. This project is going to last probably until quarter one of '23 for final restoration, all that jazz. And, so, right now is when we really want to try and make something happen because we have an opportunity for stimulus here, and we're also just about on the cusp of advertising the next few projects. So, now is the time where we need to be knocking on these people's doors, like Congressman Ryan, and saying, hey, now is the time. You wanted to do this project. You wanted to help us with this project. Help us. Tell them what the other phases are. I think Bob had a question what other projects are there.

MAYOR HILL: We have a tank; we have a water booster station; and we have a waterline that loops around the new site and then we have the site improvements. We also have a tree-clearing contract.

MR. KOGELNIK: Another tree clearing—

MR. BOND: Pardon me?

MR. KOGELNIK: Another tree clearing?

MR. BOND: One tree-clearing contract.

MR. KOGELNIK: That's the one we got the change order—

MR. RADTKA: Yeah. And everything—I've heard the term from Mayor everything's a day late and dollar short or whatever like that on this project. I don't know about that, but everything hinges on every minute. So far, we are actually on schedule with everything. And our waterline on the first project was 200K under. So I don't want to hear that everything is upside down. Sometimes it does seem like that with all the communication, right Kellie?

MR. KOGELNIK: Correct.

MS. BORDNER: But there's a lot to handle here. Then you have probably somewhat more than an aggressive developer who is saying, "Hey, I don't care if I left in 2018 and left you high and dry. I want everything."

MR. BOND: You take what you get.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. So we carved out an agreement. We think that the agreement is still sound. We're marching to it.

MR. BLANK: Chris, aren't you opening up bids tomorrow?

MR. KOGELNIK: No, not tomorrow. They're advertising tomorrow.

MR. BLANK: Okay. What about the funding? Where are we at with that?

MR. KOGELNIK: That needs to be reconciled. The draw-down needed to be reconciled. You had called and you stated that you didn't have the funds to release that—

MR. BLANK: We don't have the funds to encumber for the water towers—

MR. KOGELNIK: Right. And then you sent another email stating something to the effect that you have to have the funds encumbered by the time you open the bids ———

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MR. BLANK: Right. I'm just making sure we're protected. What I'm saying is—and your ad didn't have the language either you or Bob said you have it in the specs that you can reject any and all bids—because what I'm saying is once you open that, you can't go to BPA or Council and accept that bid until I've got the money in the bank is what I'm saying.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay, so you—

MR. BLANK: You can open them all you want, but you cannot pass anything to accept that contract until I have the funds.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay. That's understood.

MAYOR HILL: Anybody else have any questions or concerns for Chris or about this project?

MR. RADTKA: Chris, is there any assistance to the Port Authority for funding on a project like this?

MR. KOGELNIK: Is there any assistance from the Port Authority? There could be. The Port Authority really does a lot of investing, Ron, in property and building.

MR. RADTKA: I know they do that. I just didn't know if they did anything with infrastructure.

MR. KOGELNIK: I'm not familiar with them investing in water infrastructures. Now, we have looked only for a few limited pots of money for the water improvements project. ODSA, which is a weird one to begin with, it's not one I normally go to. US EDA is usually a good one. And, of course, we've got Congressman Ryan's appropriations request, which basically is an earmark, right? So, what I'm suggesting that you do on your next projects, you have other opportunities that are available other than that. You've got OWDA, USDA, those are all organizations that traditionally fund projects. I will tell you this, on your future 24-inch waterline, we've already submitted an Ohio EPA nomination form. That doesn't commit the Village to anything. It just gets your project on a list so that you can get funding. Normally, when you get a project on the list, you get the funding. But that's normally through a loan. The Village would really benefit from a grant, right?

MR. BLANK: Uh-huh.

MR. KOGELNIK: So you want to try and go after some other direct grant-type opportunities. So you want to try to look at OWDA, OPWC. You need to be aggressive with these things if you've got big infrastructure.

MR. BOND: One question—

MR. BLANK: I thought the one 24-inch line was going to be on TEC—

MR. KOGELNIK: It could be—

MR. BLANK: —unless you can get money to help fund it—

MR. KOGELNIK: It could, yes—

MR. BLANK: We don't want to take a loan out for it.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. Private developers are often expected to pay for development. You know, that's been proven. That's one of the only vehicles here in Lordstown. But that is not what the rest of the world does.

MR. BOND: These grants that we might seek, by seeking them, is there any chance of creating any negativity toward giving grants for paving and stuff through OPWC, as well?

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MR. KOGELNIK: Yes. Like, for example, if you ask for a million dollars for a water system project and your second priority was a small roadway, there's a lesser chance that you can get the roadway.

MR. BOND: We have to take this into consideration.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, and there's a way to go about that. But every year OPWC is available.

MR. BOND: Right.

MR. BORDNER: You can choose two different projects—

MR. BOND: I realize that.

MS. BORDNER: —and put them both in, but you have to prioritize them.

MR. BOND: Right.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep.

MR. BOND: So, if you get the waterline, you may well not get the other.

MR. KOGELNIK: And the other thing that I'm hoping that the Village will consider, tax increment financing, delayed assessments. These are things that—we can find a way to get the infrastructure built now and then delay an assessment. So that if you put a 24-inch waterline in front of the property where a building isn't going to need that full 24-inch capacity, at least you can delay an assessment against them so that when all of these customers connect to the 24-inch waterline, you can assess them accordingly so that you can pay for that capital later on. That's another way. The City of Hermitage does that a lot. So, there are a lot of ways to do this. I know it's been frustrating, but we're—it's kind of weird on this project. We weren't really directed to do the funding on it or seek the funding. We were willing to help because we had experience with this.

And, so, I feel like I'm tied to this project just because. And I will be. This Village is the one that I serve the most, and so I'm committed to that, and that's all I got to say.

MAYOR HILL: You know, the reason to go with a three-million gallon tank and possibly there's enough land for another three-million gallon tank, every time a big project comes—and we had no idea that we would ever get such big water uses in the Village—it's wearing to have to keep going to the trough for more money. We're trying to set ourselves up. And that's, you know, what we're trying to do here, that's why we're going for more funding. Because I think Bailey Road, south end of Tod, even more development up there by the Commerce Center, you know, we want to make sure that we don't have to have to keep going to the trough for every project. And I think everybody pretty much agrees with that.

Is there anything else we want to talk about on this issue?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

Hearing none, we'll go to the second one, which is Internet issues. Thank you, Chris.

MR. KOGELNIK: Thank you.

MAYOR HILL: Travis, we'll let you take the floor. As everybody knows, we've been having a lot of issues with Internet, fire walls. Right now, the Internet down there at the Police Department—Brent can verify—we've had a lot of issues there. I know Captain Bordonaro was working on several different

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proposals. He came up and talked to Bill at the Clerk's office and it was like \$478 a month to get Century Link for a three-year commitment. We didn't know if that was going to fix the slow problem or not. Am I correct when I say that, Brent?

CHIEF MILHOAN:

Yes.

MAYOR HILL:

As I brought up at the last Council meeting, you know, we're getting \$460,000. I think one of our main priorities should be—

MR. BLANK:

\$640,000, I thought.

MAYOR HILL:

\$640,000, yes.

MR. BLANK:

You said \$460,000.

MAYOR HILL:

Excuse me. \$640,000.

MR. BLANK:

Unless you are taking some.

(Laughter.)

MAYOR HILL:

Not this time. (Laughter.) \$640,000, excuse me. But, you know, this is one thing where we've had problems with phone systems going down since we have a 911 and everything. Travis, I'll let you take the floor and let us know—I talked to Chief Milhoan and Captain Bordonaro. Travis is working with a lot of people at 911 and everything like that and other fire chiefs. To me I felt it made sense for him to kind of spearhead it because what Chris had found out—and he put a lot of time in—and that was we didn't know if the system was going to get fixed or not. We didn't want to lock ourselves into a contract at \$478 per building, I believe. That's a pretty good chunk.

Travis, you've got the floor.

CHIEF EASTHAM:

Well, first of all, I want to thank Captain Bordonaro for doing all the leg work at the beginning because he did go out and talk with Century Link and Warren Wireless and a couple of those.

We are working on kind of a band-aid for the Internet issues at the police station. According to Joel, he has narrowed it down to the Adtran. Remember when we took the lightning strike and we lost the one Adtran. We lost it in the admin building. They gave us a loaner. That got us back up and going. We're kind of leaning towards that same lightning strike took out the one—or damaged the one at the Police Department. And it's an older style. It's the style that was before what we have in the other buildings. So, we reached out to Century Link because we have an Adtran down at the Parks Building that would work. The Parks is going to lose Internet and two phones for the time being—which I talked to Ron Hickox and Martin Elder and they said they were fine with that. They said without Marty having Fun Days, there's really no use for the phone right now. They all have cell phones, and they didn't even have a computer down there that ran on the Internet at the time. There's no PC down there.

So, kind of what our plan was for a band-aid, you know, we're a couple months out—three, four months out from changing anything. You're not just going to call a provider up tomorrow and they're going to have it done tomorrow and fix it. So, if we can get the Adtran reprogrammed by Century Link and bring it up and put it in the place of the

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one that's in the Police Department building now, we're hoping that resolves the issue for a time being, like putting a band-aid on.

I did go through all the proposals that Captain Bordonaro already had, which I'm thankful he did because it did save a lot of leg work. I know this isn't normally my job but with Ron being new, I talked to him. He doesn't know the history of the buildings. He doesn't know the history of the Internet, how the phone systems work or anything like that. So it would have been a learning curve for him.

When Mayor Hill asked me to kind of spearhead it, I had kind of mixed feeling, but I don't have a problem doing it. You know what I mean? I'll do it. It's there.

I did have Spectrum come in today. Kind of gave them a rundown of what we're looking at. They're supposed to propose something. We're going to see what that looks like. My feelings are we need to do kind of what, like, Brent and I did in dispatch. We need to gut it. We need to gut it and start over. We're running on Internet, a lot of this fiber optic, a lot of this ethernet has been in here since, like, '01, and that's old. That's like you trying to use a 2001 computer today. It's just not going to function correctly. So, all of those Adtrans and things like that are not going to run on today's speeds because they were built for prior speeds. So, that's kind of where we're at.

My other suggestion that I think would be a smart thing is to get away from having multiple companies in here. You know, we have to have Century Link for the 911 part, correct, Brent, because we're tied to the county?

CHIEF MILHOAN:
CHIEF EASTHAM:

Correct.

So we're never going to change that no matter what we do. There's going to be that Century Link side that's going to run the 911 calls. We know that. But for our actual building, like the admin building, my building, just the offices at the Police Station, Road Department, Water Department, so on. We don't need a Century Link side and the Spectrum side of one system. You know what I mean? Because what the problems are that Joel is running into, and we're all running into, is when there's a problem, Spectrum goes like this (indicating pointing finger) to Century Link and Century Link points back and says, "It's not my problem. It's their problem." I think we need to go with one company. Do it right one time and replace the wiring with it. My suggestion is if it costs us money up front to save us money on the back end. We use some of this stimulus money that's coming or whatever you want to call it through the CARES Act or whatever the new one is and if we have to pay to build a little bit of infrastructure but keep our payments low, we won't have such a large cost later on.

But I think it really needs to be addressed all the way around throughout the facilities, even the Water. I know Water struggles having enough Internet to flow valves and move valves, do things from their office. They have to go out and literally stand there. And dumping a valve, like, that 24 inch on Salt Springs Road, I think those guys told me it takes 30 minutes to open and 30 minutes to close. So, you're going to

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sit up there with your finger on the button for 30 minutes to open that valve when if you're remote accessing it in through the computer, you can do it by turning it on and the computer does the work for you. You can close it when you want to close it.

So, those are the things that I think in the long run is going to help us. It's going to be a challenge to get it straightened around, but that's kind of my point of view on the whole thing.

MR. CAMPBELL:

I agree. Because everything in that back room we've had problems with for years. The most important thing is with Century Link they've got a generator backup on our phone lines. I've talked to a couple people that are having good luck with Spectrum. We might have to make sure either our generator around here works, or they have a generator backup for the Internet. Because Century Link's Internet I've heard more complaints about that than you can believe.

CHIEF EASTHAM:

And I agree with you, Terry. And that's one thing we need to look at. The whole thing of it is it's making sure our 911 system doesn't fail. We all could survive a couple hours with a phone issue, but it can't be on the 911. We could do it and dump all the calls to the center, but we don't want to do that. We want to build a system that we don't have to worry about that we know is going to be there and it's going to work. And we want to break the buildings up on their own independent lines instead of having everything come to the admin building, leave the admin building and then network out to the other buildings. Because you can't isolate a problem. If you have an Internet issue in the Fire Station, we don't know if the problem is here. We don't know if it's in a transfer switch from here to there. If it goes from this building to the Roads then to me, it could be in the Roads. We don't know where the actual issue is. But, if we have independent lines and we have—you know, it would be okay to put the admin on the Roads because the Road doesn't really have any Internet usage, couple phones and one computer. But, when you're talking about a 911 Center and you're talking about the Fire Station and Water, especially moving valves and things like that, we can't afford to have systems down while you're chasing a problem through four different buildings to figure out what's broke. You know what I mean? So, that's kind of the gist of it. I mean, Brent, is there anything I left out? Or anything you think needs to be added?

CHIEF MILHOAN:

No. I think you covered it all.

CHIEF EASTHAM:

That's kind of where we're at. And that's kind of my feelings on it. And I talked with Joel. I talked with Jake from Hudson Communications that did dispatch. And I didn't tell them what one or the other said, and they both told me the same thing. They said if you go with a provider, let them do the phones and let them be responsible for everything that deals with phones. When it comes to the Internet, tell them all you want is it brought to the building and then the Village of Lordstown handles the rest. Because they said the equipment that they use, like, switches and Adtrans and things like that are top of the line. Because a lot of these places put them in and lease them. They break and they just

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come out and switch them. So, they don't use top-of-the-line equipment and we buy back to where we have an issue. It's nothing but calling out a tech like Joel or Hudson or someone and saying, here, fix it. And then we know it's correct and it's done right, and we have what we need to function.

MAYOR HILL: And if we buy the equipment now rather than rent it, one, we'll probably get better equipment; and two, we should have lower costs down the road for the Internet.

MR. CAMPBELL: Chief, I know some of the phones down there before wasn't hooked up to Century Link. Are they on Spectrum side now or what?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Well, it depends on what phones you're talking about, Terry. Are you talking about the one in my office or the dispatch center because they're different?

MR. CAMPBELL: Yeah. Your office, some of the offices.

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yeah.

MR. CAMPBELL: The problem I heard from people in the Village that have Spectrum phones, Spectrum doesn't have a generator backup on that. So when the cable goes out, their phones go out. So, we might want to make sure we get some of them phones upgraded to Century Link, that way we have the generator backup.

CHIEF MILHOAN: If we lose power, I lose my phone in my office. We don't lose the phones in dispatch. Obviously, dispatch is much more important than my office. It's not a big deal if mine goes down.

CHIEF EASTHAM: See, mine's in an office and when my building goes down power wise, I still have everything. All my phones still work, everything still works inside my building. But, like, I said, those are the problems we need to figure out. Yours is on Spectrum?

CHIEF MILHOAN: The one in my office—

MR. CAMPBELL: We ordered here a while back years ago and they weren't as good—

CHIEF MILHOAN: That was quite a while ago.

MR. BLANK: John was here then, too. Somebody went to Kent Branch—

CHIEF EASTHAM: I had JoEllen pull the Century Link bill, the Spectrum bill, everything we pay for phone and Internet. And I went through all of them. Your office phone, 2728, is on Century Link's bill.

CHIEF MILHOAN: It is?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Uh-huh.

CHIEF MILHOAN: What's Bordonaro's on?

MR. CAMPBELL: Probably the same.

CHIEF EASTHAM: That's the only bill we have. We have \$144 bill for Internet because we only have one drop coming in the admin building. And Bill splits it up between each department. It's like \$18 a month is what it comes out to be. He has it broke down. We have a phone bill that covers, I think I counted 28 phones in the Village.

CHIEF MILHOAN: That's correct.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Then there's also all of our data drops, like, for fax machines and things of that nature that they consider on there as a data drop. Those are on there. Then the only other Spectrum we had is for T.V.

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MAYOR HILL: Will Spectrum business give us backup? Do they have the ability to give us backup for phones? I don't know.

CHIEF EASTHAM: I'll have to call and ask them what they have on that. I didn't ask them about that because I've never had an issue. When my generator kicks on, everything in my building works. My phones work, everything works.

MR. BLANK: Brent, when you said the dispatch doesn't go out, is that because of Century Link?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yes.

MR. BLANK: I figured.

CHIEF MILHOAN: My phone line is through the Internet. The 911 system is not.

CHIEF EASTHAM: With the Internet that we have in the building, is the Spectrum—this is where it becomes really weird and difficult.

CHIEF MILHOAN: They both got their hands in it.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Yes. The control box for all the phones is in one of my offices at the Fire Department. Every phone in the Village control box is in my office at the Fire Station.

MR. CAMPBELL: Because it used to be in my office until we moved it; right, Brent? We had to move it. Remember, the box was in—

CHIEF MILHOAN: We have nothing in your office anymore. Everything got moved—

MR. CAMPBELL: I know, yeah. That's when we moved—

CHIEF MILHOAN: —when we moved dispatch.

CHIEF EASTHAM: It's in mine. So, I mean, I can literally go in there and unplug any phone at any time to any place in the Village.

CHIEF MILHOAN: Chris just said my phone in my office is Century Link but it's Spectrum that provides the Internet through it. But like Travis said, there's a problem with that because, like he said, they always do that (indicating pointing). When you have a problem, they blame each other.

CHIEF EASTHAM: No one wants to take responsibility because they don't want to say, "Yeah, that's our problem."

MR. BLANK: That's with anything when you have two different working on something.

CHIEF EASTHAM: They're butting heads a little all the time.

MR. CAMPBELL: I think the most important thing is to get the upgrade. If we got some money, let's get it done because we're way behind. I can tell you that.

MR. RADTKA: And get everything singled out to each building where we don't have this problem.

CHIEF EASTHAM: My suggestion would be to do Police Department and dispatch first and then work our way through.

MR. RADTKA: Then the Fire Department and then trickle on down through the list of important buildings.

CHIEF EASTHAM: The one thing I did find that I liked with Spectrum was—and I'll ask them about if the power goes out deal. I'll ask them if they have a backup for power—I didn't even realize this was even available. They asked me today if I want an Internet backup if, say, a car takes a pole out on Salt Springs Road and everyone in the Village loses Internet. He goes you'll lose Internet, everything will go down. He goes and you're going to be down until we get it repaired, four hours, eight hours, ten hours. He's like for \$50 a month there's an actual

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—it's almost like a cellular Internet. He said you won't even know your Internet switched. It will switch to a 4G network. He said the speed will be a little bit slower, but he said you won't lose Internet completely. You'll still have Internet. So, he said that means all your phones would work, your Internet connections will all work. Everything will still work. He said it will just be at a reduced speed until the fiber is fixed and turned back on.

MAYOR HILL: Well, the police, fire and here all have generator backup. So even if they say they can't provide it, find out if they can link into ours so we can provide it for ourselves.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Exactly. That's an option. Because we have three buildings with generators. If the Road Department doesn't have Internet and phone for a day, it's not going to make a difference.

MR. BLANK: Right.

CHIEF EASTHAM: And the Parks the same thing. The only thing we'd have to worry about is Water.

CHIEF MILHOAN: The other thing you need to understand—and I think most of you may already know this—but we found out when Chris started digging into this and they were sending engineers out to look and see what we had and didn't have, they consider my building at the Police Department and Travis' building at the Fire Department shovel-ready. What they mean by that is the fiber is already run. So, just keep in mind that if we all go with independent lines other than his building and my building, your cost will be higher because there will be much more construction costs to get fiber into your building.

MR. BLANK: Is that new, though, yours? Keep that in mind.

CHIEF EASTHAM: See, that's the thing—

MR. BLANK: Yours might need replaced if yours is old. How old is it? 20 years old?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Probably. My plan is to replace it. If we have the money—

MR. BLANK: Do everything.

MR. CAMPBELL: I agree. If you're going to go to all this, I'd be replacing the lines.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Because I don't want to go through and redo the whole system and then come back and say the fiber optic is bad from here to the road.

MR. BLANK: Right.

MR. BOND: Absolutely.

MR. REIDER: Do it all.

CHIEF EASTHAM: You know what I mean? That's why I said I'd rather pay for it up front than add it into the bill later on. I really don't want to see a \$400, \$500 bill for the next however long a month. I'd rather spend, say, \$20,000 up front and have \$150, \$200 bill from there on out. In my mind.

MAYOR HILL: I know talking with Chief Milhoan and Captain Bordonaro they both said all they want is the problem fixed. And, you know, like, Bill has been here when the phones have gone out here. It's been lingering and like Travis said, it's like a Mexican standoff where everybody is pointing the finger at somebody else. We don't need that.

CHIEF EASTHAM: And nobody even understands the system. You know what I mean? I think it's been band-aided and repaired so many times over the last 20 years that I don't think anyone could

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even look at it and wrap their head around what it takes to fix something when it breaks.
It really doesn't make sense that the Internet comes into this building and then goes all the way to my building and then the phones come back to this building.

MR. BLANK: Probably the cheapest way to do it when they did it.
CHIEF EASTHAM: If you think about it, it would have been smarter to put the phone controllers in here and just network out from it.

MR. CAMPBELL: And the problem is, when we had that meeting here a while back and took them up to that room, the younger people today don't understand what's up there. The technology is so old they didn't have a clue when we were trying to show them.

MAYOR HILL: Probably half the size, too. We could probably get rid of a lot of that stuff.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Most of that stuff will be gone because the guy was telling me today most controllers are remote. They're off site. They're not even there. They're kind of like our dispatch is. Brent's dispatch next door, their controllers are in the back room that feeds everything. There's really nothing in the front room where the dispatchers are. Where our stuff is, like, right here (indicating). So, imagine our controllers are at Spectrum's facility feeding us just by a line. Does that make any sense? So, when a controller goes bad, they repair it there.

The other thing they explained to me, too, is there's options that go on an independent line or onto a public line. And I think we need to stay away from a public line because if everyone in the Village gets on the Internet at the same time, our speeds drop. If we're on an independent fiber, we're the only ones on it. There's nobody else. It's Lordstown Village and Lordstown Village only.

MR. CAMPBELL: I make a motion myself that Trav gets on it and let's try to get some grant money and get it done because we're way behind on getting this done.

MR. BOND: One question Travis—
MAYOR HILL: We have grant money. My question is—go ahead, Bob.
MR. BOND: Can they stipulate in this that this will cure our problem?
CHIEF EASTHAM: No. Nobody will ever stipulate that. We know we're going to have faster speeds. We know that for a fact—
MR. BOND: Are you sure that's the limiting factors?
CHIEF EASTHAM: Brent replaced the CAD, what, six months ago? So there's a brand new CAD in there, and the CAD is pausing, locking up, running slow.

MR. BOND: It's not a software glitch, though?
CHIEF EASTHAM: It's an all new CAD, so it's a brand new computer.
MR. BOND: No. I realize that, but often in software, they'll find a problem with it after they run—
CHIEF EASTHAM: IB Networks runs the center and they have the same CADS as what we have. And if they're not having issues at the center, we shouldn't be having any issues.

MR. BOND: I agree.
CHIEF EASTHAM: Especially when our CAD is probably a lot smaller than theirs. Their CAD is running multiple villages, cities and townships where ours is only running two.

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MR. BOND: Right. I'd hate to see you spend money and still have the problem.

CHIEF MILHOAN: That's why we wanted to see if they could set a temporary connect-up—

MR. BOND: That makes sense.

CHIEF MILHOAN: —to see if everything was good and then we would sign a three-year deal. Because we weren't comfortable trying to sign a three—year deal knowing it may not fix the problem.

MR. BOND: Right.

CHIEF MILHOAN: So, we wanted to say, let's make sure your product works—your services work for us. If we're good on speed and everything is working well, then we'll look at signing. They won't do that. They'll guarantee you the speed that you're paying for, but they won't guarantee you that that is going to fix your CAD. Because they don't own the CAD. So, you get back into that again where you're pointing fingers.

MR. BOND: Does the CAD stipulate a particular speed should be used with it?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yes.

MR. BOND: And it's above the speed you have now?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Oh, yeah. We're not running anywhere near where we should, when it bogs down. But what's so frustrating is there are times that the CAD works perfectly fine. It's almost like your car acting up and the engine light comes on, but by the time you get to the dealer, the engine light goes off and they can't find the problem. That's what we've been struggling with since the spring of 2020.

CHIEF EASTHAM: To add to that, I can sit in my office and I can call over to dispatch, and I can ask whoever is dispatching to run a speed test on that computer that the CAD runs off. They'll run a speed test, and I'll run a speed test at the same time. On my download speeds, I'll be 80 to 90. On my upload speeds, I'm about 10 to 11. They're at 30 on the download speed and about a half to one on an upload speed. So it's under 50 percent of what my building runs. And I went to every building in this Village. I did the admin building upstairs. Kellie did her office the one day for me. We ran speed tests at the Water Department. The only one I didn't do is the Road Department because there's only one computer on it and the Parks don't have one. Every one of them all had the same exact speeds as me except for that police dispatch. Joel changed every wire from where the Internet comes from the Adtran to all their offices and the dispatch when we redid dispatch.

MR. BOND: So, you'll have a good idea if you pull the Adtran out and put it back on and whether or not that will cure it.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Yeah. Unless the fiber is bad. The only other thing it could be is the fire from there, from that Adtran to the road could be bad.

CHIEF MILHOAN: Another thing that concerns us is we know that coming down the road soon, our dispatchers are going to have to receive training—not just our dispatchers, but anybody that's in the dispatching world—it's a statewide mandate. Our dispatchers are going to have to receive training for pre-arrival instructions. So, if they get a call of a person that's giving birth, they're supposed to walk them through what

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they're supposed to do. Or somebody that needs CPR or what have you. In the old days, there was actually a pre-arrival instruction book. You'd flip to pregnancy and went down the list and you asked the questions based off the book. In today's world you don't do that. So, everything is done through software. So, what that means is all that software is going to be added to the CAD, which is going to bog it down even more. So, this is our concern. The direction these things are going, so you have to have the speeds capable of providing those services. That's just something that's coming down the road, and we've got to get it right when we have an opportunity. If this is the business that we're going to be in as dispatching, we have to be able to stay up with the times.

CHIEF EASTHAM: And the other thing to add to that, I do believe, isn't it within the next year or two they want to have dispatch be able to receive texts and Facetime?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yes. They call that NextGen 911, Next Generation 911, where you can actually text or send video to 911.

CHIEF EASTHAM: So, that's another one that's going to take up more speed again because you're basically Facetimeing dispatch on to a computer screen that you're looking at and texting. They want to add those as safety things to where they can actually show the dispatcher what the situation is. Or if it's a bank robbery and they're in there, they can text "need help" to 911. They at least know where it came from. It will be ping it like your cell phones ping. They're going to pick up the latitude and longitude and send help. So we know we're going to run into changes that's going to take more speed.

MR. BLANK: I think you better put in more than they're going to need, whatever you do for the police obviously with things coming down the road.

CHIEF EASTHAM: They'll get the max and a gig. no matter where it comes from whether it goes with Century Link, Warren Wireless, or Spectrum, wherever it goes. That dispatch—that building should not have less than a gig. in it. The rest of the buildings can probably get away with 200-500, but that dispatch should be at least a gig. no matter what. You know what I mean? It should be the fastest Internet we have in the place, and it should be the most reliable we have in the place.

MR. BLANK: I agree.

CHIEF EASTHAM: The rest of us can survive an eight-hour day without Internet. They can't. That will have to be something that will really have to make a difference to make it work right.

MAYOR HILL: I think we got all the questions. We don't have all the answers yet. I think this should probably go through Terry, the Buildings Committee, because it's all the buildings even though a lot of it is safety.

Anybody else have any comments on that?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

Travis, you know, when it comes down to crunching money, talk to Bill. And if Terry has to call a meeting to hear what the proposals are, maybe just invite all of Council, Terry, so that way everybody knows where the money is going and what the direction is.

MR. RADTKA: Do you have any timeline on when you might get something together?

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CHIEF EASTHAM: Almost everything you have—I bet before we have a place to sit down and talk about it, it will probably be close to a month. And then once we sign, it will probably take three months to complete. So, we're going to be looking at three to four months no matter what we do. And I said a month but I'm going to say a couple weeks. Thanks to Captain Bordonaro, we already have two of them done. I think we're waiting for the Spectrum one to come and then we'll be ready to meet and sit down and talk about it, me, Brent and whoever else, and be able to talk about it with Terry's committee. And then bring it in and however they want to go with it. Bring it in and just start moving on it. You're probably looking at three to four months to complete by the time you sign a contract, award them the work, do it and get it done.

There is one thing I did also learn today, too, is we'll probably have to have our Parks guys or Road Department guys go—one or two of them work with them. They won't pull old wire. Like, most of all your telecommunications—they'll run all the new stuff, but they're not worried about taking out the old.

MAYOR HILL: They can tell us what the old is, though, right?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Yes. And that's what my fear is. I don't want another dispatch. Like, Brent can vouch for how bad it was in there.

CHIEF MILHOAN: Very bad.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Like, there was 20-some years of wire. Every time something was upgraded, the old wire was left. We don't want to do that to our buildings. We need our guys to follow with them. If they say this all can be taken out, they need to remove it. Especially, when something breaks it's not, "well, what's this wire go to? What's that wire go to?" You don't know what to do with it. I did learn that by talking with some of these companies. They don't remove the old. They just build the new.

MAYOR HILL: Any other questions or concerns from Council at this time?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

Hearing none, motion to adjourn?

MR. BOND: So moved.

MR. REIDER: Second, Mr. Mayor.

MAYOR HILL: Moved by Bond; second by Reider. Comments?
(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

All in favor?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR HILL: Opposed?

(NO RESPONSE FROM COUNCIL.)

(VOTE: 6, AYE; 0, NAY; 0, ABSTAINED.)

Motion carried. Meeting adjourned. I'd like to thank everybody for listening in tonight. Have a good night.

(WHEREAS, THE SPECIAL MEETING BEFORE THE VILLAGE OF LORDSTOWN COUNCIL ADJOURNED AT 7:15 P.M.)

March 25, 2021

_____, Mayor

_____, Clerk

STATE OF OHIO)
)
COUNTY OF TRUMBULL)

I, Sharon K. Vigorito, a Notary Public, within and for the State of Ohio, do certify that the foregoing special meeting before the Lordstown Village Council was written in the presence of witnesses and by me transcribed. I further certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript to the best of my abilities.

Sharon K. Vigorito, Notary Public
My commission Expires May 9, 202