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ORDINANCE NO. 1-2026

AN ORDINANCE PLACING A TEMPORARY MORATORIUM, NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY (180) DAYS, ON THE GRANTING/ISSUING OF ANY NEW PERMITS, AS WELL AS THE RECEIPT AND PROCESSING OF APPLICATIONS FOR PERMITS, FOR DATA CENTERS WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE VILLAGE OF LORDSTOWN AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution of the State of Ohio and the Ohio Revised Code, municipalities have the power to enact planning and zoning laws that are for the health, safety, welfare, peace, and comfort of the citizens of the municipality, including restricting areas used for business and trade; and

WHEREAS, data centers are industrial-scale facilities that consume significant energy, water, and infrastructure capacity, creating water supply issues, significant utility demands that the Village may be unable to support, potential adverse impacts to the environment and Village residents, and potentially conflicting with the Village’s long-term planning goals.

WHEREAS, this Council desires to issue a moratorium for a temporary period of time, not to exceed one-hundred-and-eighty (180) days from the passage of this Ordinance, while it undertakes a review and/or study of the Ordinances of the Village of Lordstown, including the planning and zoning regulation sections of the Village of Lordstown’s Codified Ordinances and determine whether the Village has the necessary processes, resources, and infrastructure to address the growth and demands of data centers; and

WHEREAS, a moratorium will allow Council to preserve the Village of Lordstown’s residential character, protect environmental resources, and ensure sustainable land use practices; and

WHEREAS, this Council will be able to enact reasonable regulations to protect the health, safety, welfare, peace, and comfort of the citizens of the Village of Lordstown more effectively if a moratorium is in place.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE VILLAGE OF LORDSTOWN, COUNTY OF TRUMBULL, STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1: “Data Center” means a facility, used for the storage, management, and dissemination of digital data, which houses computer, telecommunication, and/or network equipment, systems,

servers, appliances, and other associated components related to digital data operations, and/or facility designed or modified to house networked computers and data and transaction processing equipment and related infrastructure support equipment, including but not limited to power and cooling equipment to provide data and transaction processing services, outsource information technology services, and computer equipment colocation services, as well as server farms, cloud computing hubs, and colocation centers.

Section 2: That Council of the Village of Lordstown recommends a temporary moratorium not to exceed one-hundred-and-eighty (180) days, on the granting/issuing of any new permits, as well as the receipt and processing of applications for permits, under Local Codified Ordinances, including Chapters 1115, 1125, and/or 1135, among others, for proposed Data Centers within the Village of Lordstown.

Section 3: That this moratorium suspends and tolls any time periods, prescribed by law, within which the Planning and Zoning Department or any other official or official body of the Village of Lordstown, is required to take action, upon an application for a permit and/or in the site plan review approval process for Data Centers, and similarly suspends any obligations or requirements to act for any such official or official body upon an application for a permit and/or in the site plan review approval process for Data Centers, during the time when this moratorium shall be in effect.

Section 4: That it is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its Committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 5: That this moratorium shall not be construed to apply to the following exceptions:

- a. Municipal or emergency service data infrastructure operated by the Village of Lordstown or its authorized agents.
- b. Small-scale server rooms incidental to permitted business operations, provided they do not exceed 500 square feet and are not the primary use of the property.
- c. The manufacturing of components and/or hardware for data centers, including data center show rooms incidental to such businesses.
- d. Any other business when prohibited by law.

Section 6: That the Council of the Village of Lordstown hereby desires a moratorium in order to allow Council, and any of its committees, Planning Commission, and/or the Village of Lordstown Planning and Zoning Department to review applicable Ohio statutes and undertake a review and/or study of the Ordinances of the Village of Lordstown, including the planning and zoning regulation sections of the Village of Lordstown Ordinances, and perform further due diligence on Data Centers to determine how Data Centers will impact the Village's infrastructure, utilities, environment,

residents, and long-term planning goals as well as to protect public health, safety, and general welfare.



Section 7: That the Village of Lordstown Council hereby imposes a moratorium on new permits for Data Centers for a period not to exceed one-hundred-and-eighty (180) days from the effective date of this Ordinance and directs that no permits shall be issued for these facilities during the 180-day period during the moratorium.

Section 8: If any section, phrase, sentence, or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions thereof.

Section 9: That this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the public health, safety, and welfare, and for the further reason that this Ordinance must be implemented in a timely manner to minimize the adverse impacts of Data Centers and protect the Village's infrastructure, utilities, environment, residents, and long-term planning goals while the Village conducts due diligence to address the aforementioned concerns.

Section 10: That the passage of this Ordinance and all deliberations relating to the passage of this Ordinance were held in open meetings in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 121.22.

Passed in Council this 5 day of January, 2026.


_____, Mayor

_____, Clerk