

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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ORDINANCE NO. 57-2025

**AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF 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**, this Village of Lordstown seeks to preserve its residential character, protect environmental resources, and ensure sustainable land use practices; and

**WHEREAS**, data centers are industrial-scale facilities that consume significant energy, water, and infrastructure capacity, potentially conflicting with the Village's long-term planning goals.

**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 server farms, cloud computing hubs, and colocation centers.

**Section 2:** That the Village shall place a ban on the following:

- a. No person, corporation, partnership, or other legal entity shall construct, establish, operate, or maintain a data center within the corporate boundaries of the Village of Lordstown.
- b. No zoning permit, building permit, or certificate of occupancy shall be issued for any use that meets the definition of a data center as identified in Section 1 above.

**Section 3:** That the Village shall establish the following enforcement and penalties:

- a. Any violation of this Ordinance shall be subject to enforcement by the Village's Planning and Zoning Department.
- b. Violators shall be subject to a fine not exceeding \$1,000 per day for each day the violation continues, and may be subject to injunctive relief.

**Section 4:** That this prohibition shall not 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.

**Section 5:** That if any provision of this Ordinance is found to be invalid or unconstitutional, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions.

**Section 6:** 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.

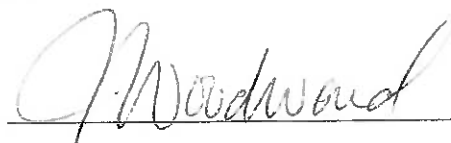
**Section 7:** That the Planning & Zoning Committee of the Village of Lordstown unanimously recommends a prohibition on new permits for any data center facility.

**Section 8:** That the Village of Lordstown Council hereby imposes a prohibition on new permits for any data center facility that does not comply with this Ordinance. The following shall not apply to any data center facility already existing, or under construction, in the Village of Lordstown as of the effective date of this Ordinance.

**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 at the earliest period allowed by law.

**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 3 day of November, 2025.

 \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor

 \_\_\_\_\_, Clerk

First reading was October 6, 2025  
Second reading was October 20, 2025