

August 4, 2025

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
REGULAR MEETING OF THE LORDSTOWN VILLAGE COUNCIL
1455 Salt Springs Road, Lordstown, Ohio
August 4, 2025
6:04 p.m. to 6:44 p.m.**

IN ATTENDANCE:

Ms. Jaclyn Woodward, Mayor
Mr. William Blank, Clerk
Mr. George Ebling, Treasurer
Ms. Jessica Blank, Councilwoman
Mr. Robert Bond, Councilman
Mr. Lamar Liming, Councilman
Mr. Jamie Moseley, Councilman
Mr. Howard Sheely, Councilman
Mr. Ernie Bowen, Councilman

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS taken before me, DEBORAH LAVELLE, RPR, a court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio on this 4th of August, 2025.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Will you please stand and join me for the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

**LORD'S PRAYER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

MAYOR WOODWARD: Bill, roll call please.
CLERK BLANK: Mayor Woodward.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Clerk Blank, present. Treasurer George Ebling.
MR. EBLING: Here.
CLERK BLANK: Matt Ries.
ATTY. RIES: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Police Chief Brent Milhoan.
CHIEF MILHOAN: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Fire Chief Travis Eastham.
CHIEF EASTHAM: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Planning and Zoning Administrator Kellie Bordner.
MS. BORDNER: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Streets Commissioner Martin Nelder.
MR. NELDER: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Board of Public Affairs.
MR. PETERSON: Present.
CLERK BLANK: Engineer Chris Kogelnik.
MR. KOGELNIK: Present.

August 4, 2025

MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion for adoption of the agenda?
MR. LIMING: So moved.
MR. BOND: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Liming, then a second by Bond. All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion is carried.
Is there a motion for disposal of the minutes for the public hearings July 21, 2025 and the regular Council meeting July 21, 2025?
MR. SHEELY: So moved.
MR. BOWEN: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Sheely, and a second by Bowen. Are there any questions or discussion on the minutes? All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried.
Is there a motion for payment of the bills?
MS. BLANK: So moved.
MR. LIMING: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Blank, and a second by Liming. Any questions on the bills? All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried.
Mayor's Report. The only thing I have tonight is that we're looking for one hire for the full-time captain position at the Fire Department. And that's all that I have.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Clerk's Report.
MR. BLANK: No report.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Solicitor's Report.
ATTY. RIES: No report, Mayor.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Treasurer's Report.
MR. EBLING: No report.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Board of Trustees of Board of Public Affairs.
MR. PETERSON: Yes, Mayor. Our regular meeting is at 4:00 tomorrow, and we would just like Council's support on the two pieces of legislation.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Does anybody have any questions for Chris?
MAYOR WOODWARD: Village Engineer's Report.
MR. KOGELNIK: Mayor, I have distributed my report via e-mail last week. In the past couple weeks we've been working on Trumbull Energy Center land development plan review which is involved with the Warren water line predominantly. And this project for the Warren water line is planned to start; and that's the three crossings on Brunstetter, Highland, and Salt Springs Road. It's planned to start actual physical construction on Brunstetter on Wednesday. Tomorrow, Tuesday, will be maintenance and traffic on that road. Already heading eastward on Brunstetter there's a sign alerting traffic that says construction will start on the 6th. So they're planning to get all three crossings done by September 2. That would be, I believe, the first day of school. If they can do that, that would be good to get in and get it out of the way. So the next crossing that they would do after

August 4, 2025

Brunstetter will be Highland and then Salt Springs. This past month we've also done a lot of work on the Foxconn site plan review that there was probably about two, two-and-a-half weeks of solid work put into that. And in terms of the booster station on State Route 45, our survey crew had started today on that; and they're gonna also meet tomorrow because there was a lot of material that he had to work around. And we have submitted a proposal for Lyntz Road resurfacing, and I believe Lamar and Martin are handling that. That one may involve the OPWC funding. The pre-applications for OPWC are due to Eastgate either the end of August or beginning of September, I can't remember which. Does anybody have any questions for me? Thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Thanks, Chris.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Special Reports. Police Chief Brent Milhoan.

CHIEF MILHOAN:

I submitted my monthly report for July this afternoon, if you have any questions. The only other thing I have is on Friday August 1, in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement we offered a sergeant's promotional exam due to a vacancy in our sergeant's position. The test was offered by Clancy and Associates, which is an outside agency. Officer Blank scored 73.616 percent, so he will be promoted in the near future. That's all I have.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Thank you. Does anybody have any questions for the Chief?

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Fire Chief Travis Eastham.

CHIEF EASTHAM:

No report tonight, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Does anybody have any questions for Travis? No?

MAYOR WOODWARD:

Planning and Zoning Administrator Kellie Bordner.

MS. BORDNER:

Thank you, Mayor. The next Mobile Market will be on Wednesday, August 6 at 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. out here in the parking lot at the administration building. We're still working on site plan projects for TDSI and Foxconn. Zoning code warnings or violations have settled down some and we're just left with the repeat offenders. I also have a letter that I would like to read that was received today and that was asked to be presented at Council. It's dated July 21, 2025. It's addressed to me as the planning and zoning administrator and it states: "I want to bring your attention to an incident that occurred in January this year concerning Schumacher Homes of Ravenna. While building a home on Palmyra Road, they cut through the gas well line which has been supplying gas to our home for over 27 years. They then proceeded to bury the line under multiple loads of dirt. They made no attempt to notify us, nor did they try to repair it. When we finally became aware of the problem we asked them to repair the line. They refused. We then asked if they would split the cost with us. Again they declined. We repaired the line ourselves which cost \$3,298. This company does business in our community but does not seem to have any regard for those who live here. Sincerely"--and it's signed by Ronna Nazarini at 4041 Palmyra Road. And I believe that she's talking about the house that was built on Palmyra at 4331, and it was probably around that time. And I don't, you know, really know what to tell her to do other than it's likely a civil issue.

MAYOR WOODWARD:

It might be if that's a private gas well line and not a public utility. So I'll call her and talk to her--

MS. BORDNER:

Okay.

August 4, 2025

MAYOR WOODWARD: --and see if I can get more information about it and see what other what steps she's taken.

MS. BORDNER: All right. Thank you so much.

MAYOR WOODWARD: See if I can help there.

MS. BORDNER: Thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD: All right. Does anybody have any questions for Kellie?

MAYOR WOODWARD: Parks/Grounds/Buildings/Streets Superintendent Martin Nelder.

MR. NELDER: Yes, Mayor. The only thing I have, I've been in meetings with ODOT and Trumbull County over the Salt Springs project to resurface it. It looks like right now they're leaning towards 2027 to pave, early 2027, because all the paperwork and everything has gotta go through and it would be too late in 2026. So right now it is gonna be probably 2027.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay.

MR. NELDER: We're having a monthly meeting every month so everybody is on the same page. I'll let you know.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Thank you. Does anybody have any questions for Martin?

MR. BOWEN: I do. Hey Martin, yesterday at the baseball party all those families were over there. I got asked a lot about the slide.

MR. NELDER: It's on order for the spiral slide. Yes. I just talked to the person today to see what was going on.

MR. BOWEN: Yeah. When the Facebook thing blew up about the changes we got a couple calls about if I would bring that stuff up.

MR. NELDER: I did see the thing about the changes on the--

MR. BOWEN: Okay, thanks.

MR. NELDER: But yeah, it's on order.

MAYOR WOODWARD: When do they expect it in?

MR. NELDER: The slide?

MAYOR WOODWARD: Yeah.

MR. NELDER: The guy is supposed to get back to me tomorrow, because I did call him today, but he didn't have a technical date.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Stay on them, Martin. Does anybody have any questions for Martin other than--okay, we'll move on then.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there any correspondence, Bill?

MR. BLANK: No correspondence, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Remarks. If there is any raise your hand and I'll call on you. Go ahead. State your name and address for the record.

MS. WATSON: Danielle Watson. 2056 New Drive. So on the agenda there is a grievance on there. My question is, is that public or private? It says grievance next page.

MR. BLANK: We're not even at that yet.

MS. WATSON: When we do get there, is that gonna be public or private? That's my question.

ATTY. RIES: It was gonna be public.

MS. WATSON: That was my question for that. Because the officer that is retiring, I don't know why the Village won't recognize her as being retired. The unions have recognized her as being retired, she has dedicated over 25 years of her life to this Village and has been a phenomenal officer here. I know the reason why she's got it said no, because our police chief feels that she didn't retire because she didn't let him know. I'm gonna tell you something about our police chief. Someone here needs to tell him just because he feels something, feelings aren't fact because his feelings that he had a couple years ago destroyed my family. Second thing I wanted to

August 4, 2025

ask was--Mr. Lamar and Mr. Bowen, if you would please--if you have people in that back room, how many Council members and the Mayor are allowed to be back there at the same time before it has to be called a meeting or publicly a meeting?

MR. LIMING: Let our Solicitor--

ATTY. RIES: You would have to have a voting majority, so four.

MS. WATSON: So that would have to be four Council members with the Mayor or two Council members and the Mayor?

ATTY. RIES: No.

MAYOR WOODWARD: The Mayor wouldn't count.

ATTY. RIES: She's not part of the legislative authority; she only breaks ties. So it would have to be four, and they would have to be discussing official Village business.

MS. WATSON: Okay. So the number is four. Okay. I was just curious about that. Okay, thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Are there any other public remarks? All right. Hearing none--

MR. BOND: We'll move on to Council remarks. Hearing none--

MAYOR WOODWARD: We'll move on to Committee Reports. Finance, Bob Bond.

MR. BOND: Yes, Mayor. I have no report this evening. No legislation. Thank you.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Parks, Buildings, Grounds, General Improvements, Streets and Sidewalks, Lamar Liming.

MR. LIMING: Yes. I wanted to bring it up in New Business, for Verdantas to do a proposal on Lyntz Road repaving.

MR. BLANK: Work authorization?

MR. LIMING: Work authorization.

MAYOR WOODWARD: You'll have that under New Business? Okay.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Safety and Police Department, Jamie Moseley.

MR. MOSELEY: I have no report tonight, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Safety, Fire, and EMS, Howard Sheely.

MR. SHEELY: Yes. I got a thing here from Travis for--

CHIEF EASTHAM: Do you want me to explain it?

MR. SHEELY: Yeah.

CHIEF EASTHAM: Okay. So in the back of all of our ambulances we have what we run are Lifepak 15s. They are E.K.G. monitors, A.E.D., they do blood pressures, pulse ox. About a month ago or so, month-and-a-half ago, Foxconn donated one to us that they were not using that was brand-new that was still in the box. I brought it to my committee, we accepted it, didn't realize it didn't have a 12-lead button in it to do a full 12-lead. At least monitors right now today are about \$55,000 apiece. The quote to put the button in, believe it or not, is \$16,180-some. So I brought it to my committee today saying we either need to have a meeting, or since it's a substantial amount of money I thought it should just go to Council and you guys can make a decision. We still--the way I look at it, we still saved almost 40 Grand to put a button in it. We should get ten years, maybe twelve years out of it. I've left it to you guys to make the decision what you want to do with it.

MR. MOSELEY: What does the button do?

CHIEF EASTHAM: It's what does the 12-lead. So you put 12 patches on a person to read their heart rhythm from 12 different directions. Right now it will only do four. So it's--basically it's not an ALS monitor, so a paramedic it does nothing for but a paperweight in the back of an ambulance that can take

August 4, 2025

MR. MOSELEY: blood pressures and do a pulse ox.
Well is it a spare, or do you have them in the other ambulances?

CHIEF EASTHAM: We have all those ambulances in service. So the old ambulance, the '06, we pulled it out probably two months ago and moved it up to the station and took the rescue and put it down at Kunkle and swapped them. And the reason is we've been running--we are more E.M.S., it's running more than the rescue is ran, just put it to you that way. And we have equipment on the engine that can get us by until the rescue gets there. So I couldn't look a resident in the eye and say we had the manpower but we didn't have the ambulance because it was at Kunkel. So we decided to bring it back since we have manpower now to be able to run three calls at a time if we had to, which lately has been getting more and more like that where we're getting hit two, three in a row or at once. So when Foxconn came to me and said do you have any use for these, I said sure. I went to my committee and I said they're offering us this, we accepted it, but did not realize until we got it that--it's the first monitor I ever saw that doesn't have a 12-lead button on it and Lifepak 15. So shame on me for not looking at it closely.

MR. MOSELEY: Why didn't they order it with the button?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Because they weren't going to read 12-leads because of having nurses read them, they weren't having cardiologists look at them. It was in a work medical department, you know what I mean. It's basically like a very expensive A.E.D. that does blood pressures as a 4-lead. You can kind of see what is going on, but you are not seeing all of it. So it's up to Council, whatever you guys want to do.

MR. SHEELY: So what's you guys' thought?

MR. BOND: Well, I asked Travis if there is any of this model going obsolete in the near future and wouldn't be able to get parts; and he said no.

CHIEF EASTHAM: I'm guessing probably 10 years, 8 to 10 maybe by the time they start phasing those out. They phase them out every so often.

MR. BOND: And this is a brand-new unit, never been used?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Brand-new. It was in the box when I got it.

MR. BOWEN: Hey Travis, do the other ambulances have similar--

CHIEF EASTHAM: They have the same exact monitors in them.

MR. BOWEN: And this one, barring the 12-pin, does everything that you guys need?

CHIEF EASTHAM: Does the same as everything. All the other ones will be the same exact one. It's the same monitor but newer than the other two we have, just missing that 12-lead button. The programming is in it, you can find the programming when you go through it, but it does not have the physical button on the left-hand side to push to read. So it's up to Council what you guys want to do. It's either--I mean, it really does nothing for us--like Foxconn donated the other one to North Jackson Fire, so they're in the same boat that we're with it also because theirs is the same exact one that we had. So I don't know what to do with it.

MR. SHEELY: Do you want to help them get it, go ahead and get it?

MR. MOSELEY: I'd say yeah.

MAYOR WOODWARD: You'll make that motion then under--

MR. SHEELY: New Business.

August 4, 2025

MAYOR WOODWARD: Anything else, Howard?
MR. SHEELY: No.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Public Utilities, Ernie Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: No report, Mayor.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Planning and Zoning, Jessica Blank.
MS. BLANK: Just what I was gonna say, reminder that Mobile Market is here in the parking lot from 11:30 to 12:30.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Everybody show up. Okay. We'll move on to Legislation.
MR. BLANK: Okay. Mayor, before I start--I don't know--did you tell all the Council members and the Solicitor about touching those mics?
MAYOR WOODWARD: I did not.
MR. BLANK: I will tell them. The guy come in today. These should never be touched, you gotta keep them in front of you. And he set all the buttons back there, so everything should be fine.
MS. BLANK: I already touched it. No one told me ahead of time.
CLERK BLANK: What are you doing with yours, George?
MR. EBLING: I turned mine out of the way. Am I allowed to touch it to correct it?
CLERK BLANK: Please do.
MS. BLANK: It was squealing really bad.
CLERK BLANK: He came in and adjusted it.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. So speak clearly, enunciate, talk loudly, okay.
MR. BLANK: **From Planning Commission for Second Reading. An Ordinance amending the Village zoning map to reclassify 14.6226 acres of real property subdivided from Parcel Nos. 45-141130 and 45-025651, both owned by Clean Energy Future-Trumbull, L.L.C. from mixed zone of residential and industrial to solely residential.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Are there any motions on this piece? Hearing none, I declare that this has had its second reading.
MR. BLANK: **From Planning Commission for Second Reading, an Ordinance amending the Lordstown Village zoning map to reclassify 3.5838 acres of real property owned within Parcel No. 45-041565 and 2.3910 acres of real property within Parcel No. 45-905182, both owned by Busey Bank, Successor Trustee of the Illinois Land Trust #8436-85 from commercial highway business to industrial.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Are there any motions on this piece? Hearing none, I declare that this has had its second reading.
MR. BLANK: **From Planning Commission for Second Reading, an Ordinance amending the Lordstown Village zoning map to reclassify 185,245 square feet (4.253 acres) of real property owned by Home Goods, Inc., being Parcel No. 45-905570 from industrial to residential and waiving certain requirements.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Are there any motions on this piece? Hearing none, I declare that this piece has had its second reading.
MR. BLANK: **From Board of Public Affairs for Emergency Passage, an Ordinance authorizing the Village of Lordstown to enter into an amended Road Use Agreement ("Amended RUMA") with the City of Warren, Ohio for the purpose of constructing the finished water transmission main project for the benefit of Clean Energy Future-Trumbull, L.L.C. and declaring an emergency.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion to suspend the rules?
MR. SHEELY: So moved.
MR. BOWEN: Second.

August 4, 2025

MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Sheely and a second by Bowen. Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: No.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Five ayes, one nay. The motion is carried to suspend the rules. Is there a motion to adopt?
MR. LIMING: So moved.
MR. BOWEN: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Liming, second by Bowen. Is there any discussion? Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: No.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: All right. Five ayes and one nay. The motion is carried to adopt Ordinance 39-2025.
CLERK BLANK: **From Board of Public Affairs for Emergency Passage. An Ordinance authorizing the Village of Lordstown to enter into a first addendum to the Water Supply Agreement with the City of Warren in connection with the Trumbull Energy Center project and declaring an emergency.**
MAYOR WOODWARD: Is there a motion to suspend the rules?
MS. BLANK: So moved.
MR. SHEELY: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Blank, second by Sheely. Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: No.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Five ayes, one nay. The motion is carried to suspend the rules. Is there a motion to adopt?
MR. BOWEN: So moved.

August 4, 2025

MR. BOND: Second.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Bowen and a second by Bond. Any discussion?
Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: No.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Five ayes, one nay. The motion is carried to adopt Ordinance 40-2025.

GRIEVANCE HEARING:

MAYOR WOODWARD: We'll move on to the next part of our agenda, which is a grievance hearing.
ATTY. RIES: Okay. We have before us Atty. Amanda Hays here. Hi, Atty. Hays, how are you?
ATTY. HAYS: Not too bad.
ATTY. RIES: Is Michele with you?
ATTY. HAYS: She unfortunately can't be with us today.
ATTY. RIES: We're here on Grievance 25-01 concerning Article 15, Section 2 of the Village's Collective Bargaining Agreement with the OPBA with the right to purchase a handgun upon retirement. This grievance was filed on July 10, 2025. At the Step Two Grievance meeting it occurred with Atty. Hays and Chief Milhoan on July 21 of 2025. The Chief denied the grievance on two grounds: that she, Sgt. Mercer, was not retiring at the time that she left the Village, that she was leaving for another job, and that the grievance was untimely. So this grievance is now at Step Three before Council pursuant to Article 32, Section 4 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. So Sgt. Mercer is represented by Atty. Hays. So the way the process will work, I will allow you to present your side. Chief, if there's anything that you want to add to rebut you're more than welcome to. And then that will be before Council to decide whether or not to allow Sgt. Mercer to purchase the handgun for \$1 under the CBA based on the finding that she retired; or to deny that based on the finding that she did not retire at the time that she left the Village, that it was a resignation.
ATTY. HAYS: So in the CBA, I believe it's Article 15 this is, there's a paragraph in there that says upon retirement a service member with at least 10 years of experience with the Village can purchase their handgun for \$1. Those are the only requirements, that you're there for at least 10 years and that you're retired. Now Mercer has worked with the Village for at least 20 years, possibly even a few years over that, and she did officially retire. She applied for retirement back in August of 2024. It took a while to get through the process, and it officially happened I believe sometime in February of '25. Since she is officially retired with the Village, the Village was notified of that retirement; and since she more

August 4, 2025

than qualifies for the amount of years that she was in service with the Village, the union's position is that she should be able to purchase her handgun for a dollar per the CBA.

ATTY. RIES: Does Council have any questions for Atty. Hays?
(No response.)

ATTY. RIES: Okay. Atty. Hays, anything else you want to add?

ATTY. HAYS: I know that there was an issue with the whole timeliness of the grievance. It is the union's position that this is a recurring grievance, that every time she is denied buying her handgun that timeline restarted. So every day that she didn't get it up to July 10 when we filed the grievance, we were still within the timelines.

ATTY. RIES: Okay. All right. All right, thank you. Chief Milhoan, is there--do you want to present your position.

CHIEF MILHOAN: You pretty much covered everything in the intro, Solicitor, but just to reiterate. I did receive an e-mail from Michele Mercer that was dated Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 13:53 hours which states, and I quote: "This is to inform you that I am submitting my resignation as an officer and Sgt. at the Lordstown Police Department effective 2/16/2025 at 14:30 hours". Approximately four months later she sent me another e-mail, it was dated Thursday, May 15 at 17:55 hours which states, "I have left the department on retirement/disability and am writing to ask for a retirement ID as well as per the contract to purchase my duty weapon for \$1". I responded back to her four days later and I said, "I have reviewed your resignation letter that you e-mailed me on January 21, 2025 at 13:53 hours, which states this is to inform you that I am submitting my resignation as an officer and Sgt. at the Lordstown Police Department effective 2/16/2025 at 14:30 hours". So no retirement or disability. At that time I denied her request for retirement identification from the Lordstown Police Department and to purchase her duty weapon for a dollar. We did have a Step Two grievance hearing. Her and her counsel presented testimony. And basically what you said in your introduction, I denied her her grievance based on the reason that she, being Mercer, resigned from the Lordstown Police Department to obtain another job working for Mercy Health, which is where she worked to my knowledge until her disability and retirement was approved and she did resign from there. And also on the ground of not filing the grievance in a timely manner.

ATTY. RIES: Okay. And that's what, seven days under the Collective Bargaining Agreement?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yes, sir.

ATTY. RIES: Atty. Hays, anything else you want to add?

ATTY. HAYS: So she applied for retirement. That's a lengthy process, it takes several months for that to go through. During that time she did retire. However, her status has now changed to retired, the union recognized her as retired, the Village has been notified that she is retired now that is her status is retired. I also want to make note in the Collective Bargaining Agreement there is no requirement that the patrol officer needs to notify the Chief of the retirement, it just says that they need to retire. And if I may, I have two questions for the Police Chief. The duty gun that she has, is that still in the possession of the Police Department?

CHIEF MILHOAN: Yes, ma'am.

August 4, 2025

ATTY. HAYS: And approximately what's the value of that gun?
CHIEF MILHOAN: I do not know.
ATTY. HAYS: That's all I have.
ATTY. RIES: All right, thank you. Council, do you have questions for Atty. Hays or for Chief Milhoan?
MS. BLANK: I guess I understand that she didn't have to notify the Chief that she retired, but were we supposed to be notified? Like how is anyone supposed to know that?
ATTY. HAYS: OP&F notified the Village.
MR. BOND: And at what point?
MS. BLANK: Notified who?
ATTY HAYS: I can go back and check the letter. But OP&F notified the Village once the retirement actually went through. And there's also a letter that they received some sort of documentation from the Village that they were notified initially when she put in for the retirement.
MR. SHEELY: Somebody was notified within the Village? Probably upstairs, Human Resources.
ATTY. HAYS: I believe so, yeah.
MR. MOSELEY: Why wouldn't she tell her direct supervisor since he's her boss?
ATTY. HAYS: Like I said, the Village was notified upon her retirement. Once that went through and she said here I am, I'm here to take my duty gun for a dollar.
ATTY. RIES: So under our Collective Bargaining Agreement, Council would either choose to allow Sgt. Mercer to keep her gun--it should be done by roll call vote--or deny the grievance at Step Three, at which point it could go to arbitration if it's denied.
MR. BOND: I think Council acted upon a letter that said she resigned and she went to another department. I think that's what is confusing the issue.
MR. SHEELY: We--
ATTY. HAYS: Her status was changed to retired once that all went through. So even though she had previously resigned during that period where the retirement was being processed--
MR. SHEELY: Processed?
ATTY. HAYS: Yes, that is true. However, her status changed to retired once actually the paperwork all went through and the paperwork was approved.
MR. BOWEN: So retirement service has officially recognized her as a retired police officer from Lordstown, Ohio?
MR. BOND: But not in the last department she worked for?
ATTY. HAYS: I'm unsure about the other department, but she is officially retired here at Lordstown.
MR. BOWEN: Is that a department or a security job?
MR. SHEELY: I thought that was a security job. Where did she go, Chief?
CHIEF MILHOAN: Mercy Health.
MR. SHEELY: That would probably have been a security job.
MR. BOND: They have their own police department.
MS. BLANK: They do?
MR. BOND: They're actually police officers.
ATTY. RIES: So again, at this juncture it would be a vote to either vote to approve the grievance and allow her to purchase her gun for \$1--so it would be a yes vote if you want to approve the grievance and allow her to purchase the gun for \$1.
MR. LIMING: And a no vote is--
MS. BLANK: A no.

August 4, 2025

MR. LIMING: --no go? I want to make sure.
ATTY. RIES: I would just do a roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Do you have to make a motion one way or the other?
ATTY. RIES: Yeah, somebody should make a motion.
MR. SHEELY: All right. I'll make a motion that we still let her have her duty weapon.

MR. BOWEN: I'll second it.
MS. BLANK: For a dollar.
MR. SHEELY: For a dollar. Be done with it.
ATTY. RIES: It's seconded.
MAYOR WOODWARD: Roll call.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bond.
MR. BOND: No.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Bowen.
MR. BOWEN: Yes.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Liming.
MR. LIMING: No.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Moseley.
MR. MOSELEY: No.
CLERK BLANK: Miss Blank.
MS. BLANK: No.
CLERK BLANK: Mr. Sheely.
MR. SHEELY: No.
MAYOR WOODWARD: All right. It looks like that's five nays and one aye, so the motion--

CLERK BLANK: Four and two, isn't it? Ernie and Howard?
MAYOR WOODWARD: Howard voted no.
CLERK BLANK: You did?
MR. SHEELY: Let me rephrase it. I'm voting for what, let her go ahead and have her duty--

MAYOR WOODWARD: So yours was a yes?
MR. SHEELY: Yes.
MAYOR WOODWARD: So two ayes, four nays. So it would be denied. Can't wait to read those minutes, it's gonna be very confusing. So then--

ATTY. RIES: So that's the end of the grievance then, and the attorney-- she can advance it to Step Four if they want to, which would be arbitration.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. So then the hearing is over.

MAYOR WOODWARD: And then we'll move on to Old Business. Is there any Old Business that Council would like to discuss? Hearing none--
MAYOR WOODWARD: We'll move on to New Business. Can I have a motion to hire Timothy Grantz as a full-time Captain/Firefighter/Paramedic with the effective date to be August 15, 2025.

MR. BOWEN: I'll make the motion.
MR. BOND: I'll second it.
MAYOR WOODWARD: A motion by Bowen and a second by Bond. All in favor?
(All respond aye.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?
(No response.)
MAYOR WOODWARD: The motion is carried. Lamar, do you have--
MR. LIMING: Yes. I want to make a motion for a work authorization for Verdantas for the Lyntz Road paving resurfacing project, cost not to exceed \$63,125.

MR. MOSELEY: So who's paying for that? Is that part of that RUMA agreement because they screwed the road all up when they moved all that heavy equipment?

August 4, 2025

MR. KOGELNIK: There was very little damage on Lyntz Road as caused by the RUMA. Who's paying for this? This would be a combination of the Village and OPWC. OPWC would be a grant. So we hope to apply for OPWC somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 to 40 percent grant on the project.

MR. MOSELEY: I thought that if that road got plowed up when they moved all that heavy equipment through there for the power plants--

MR. KOGELNIK: During the LEC project that was considered. Trumbull County, I think, afterwards--correct me if I'm wrong, Martin--did Trumbull County come after that and do the mill and fill and the wheel path areas?

MR. NELDER: I believe those were done after the first power plant.

MR. KOGELNIK: After LEC. So they restored some of the road there. The road is in bad shape, it's got problems all over the place. It just needed--it's probably over 20 years since it's been resurfaced. And we're gonna have people out there doing pavement for us tomorrow just to verify that we have enough thickness there to work with to do a convention mill and fill. So we'll come back to the Village after we know that so we can prescribe the correct resurfacing.

MR. LIMING: And you gotta apply for this grant?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep, we gotta do that too. That's the most important thing because there's a time component for that.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. Anything else? There is a motion by Liming, second by Moseley. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?

(No response.)

The motion is carried.

MR. SHEELY: I'd like a motion for--to okay Travis to spend \$17,179.80 for the switch there for the monitor that he needs for the ambulance.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Is that sufficient, Bill?

CLERK BLANK: I guess. That's the best we're gonna get out of him.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Okay. There is a motion by Sheely.

MS. BLANK: Second.

MAYOR WOODWARD: There is a second by Blank. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?

(No response.)

Motion is carried. Is there any other New Business? All right. Hearing none, we'll move on.

Is there any additional public remarks tonight? Hearing none--

Can I have a motion for adjournment.

MR. BOWEN: So moved.

MR. BOND: Second.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Motion by Bowen, second by Bond. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MAYOR WOODWARD: All opposed?

(No response.)

The motion is carried. Meeting adjourned.

(The meeting adjourns at 6:44 p.m.)

_____, Mayor
 _____, Clerk

August 4, 2025

C E R T I F I C A T E
STATE OF OHIO)
TRUMBULL COUNTY) SS.

I, Deborah I. Lavelle, a Notary Public in and for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the foregoing meeting before the Lordstown Village Council was written by me in the presence of the Members and transcribed by me using computer-aided transcription according to the stenotype notes taken at the time the said meeting took place.

I do further certify that I am not a relative, counsel or attorney of any Member, or otherwise interested in the event of this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office at Niles, Ohio on this 11th day of August, 2025.

DEBORAH I. LAVELLE, Notary Public
My Commission expires 4/15/2027