

February 18

26

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE LORDSTOWN VILLAGE BOARD OF
PUBLIC AFFAIRS AND UTILITY COMMITTEE
1455 Salt Springs Road, Lordstown, Ohio
February 18, 2026
2:00 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mr. Christopher Peterson, President
Mr. Michael Sullivan, Vice-President
Mr. Stanley Czeck, Board Member
Mr. Darren Biggs, Supt. of Utilities
Ms. Cinthia Slusarczyk, Clerk
Mr. Christopher Kogelnik, Engineer
Atty. Matthew Ries, Solicitor
Mr. Mark McGrail, Utilities Chairman
Mr. Robert Bond, Utilities Committee
Mr. Jamie Moseley, Utilities Committee

ALSO PRESENT: Ms. Jaclyn Woodward, Mayor
Mr. Scott Verner, MVSD
Mr. Jon Jamison, MVSD
Mr. Kadar Bondi, MVSD

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS transcribed by me, DEBORAH LAVELLE, RPR, a court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio, from an audio recording of the proceedings made on the 18th of February, 2026.

MR. PETERSON: Mark, do you want to call the meeting to order or do you want us to? It's a joint meeting between us so it doesn't matter.

MR. McGRAIL: Who is keeping the minutes?

MR. PETERSON: She is. Cindy is.

MR. McGRAIL: Well, go ahead if she's keeping the minutes.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Do you want to do the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It's on the --

MR. PETERSON: It's on the agenda. Please stand for the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

LORD'S PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL:

MR. PETERSON: Welcome everybody. Roll call please.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Chris Peterson.

MR. PETERSON: Present.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Michael Sullivan.

MR. SULLIVAN: Here.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Stanley Czeck.

MR. CZECK: Here.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Mark McGrail.

MR. McGRAIL: Present.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Robert Bond.

MR. BOND: Here.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Jamie Moseley.

MR. McGRAIL: He's not here. (Inaudible comment.)

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Okay. Darren Biggs.

(No response.)

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Cinthia Slusarczyk, present. Matt Ries.

ATTY. RIES: Here.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Chris Kogelnik.

MR. KOGELNIK: Present.

MR. PETERSON: Can I have a motion.

February 18

26

SPEAKER: I make a motion to excuse Jamie.

(Inaudible comments.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion.

SPEAKER: Second.

MR. PETERSON: All in favor.

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed. And I'll make a motion to excuse Darren.

SPEAKER: Second.

MR. PETERSON: All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE:

MR. PETERSON: Any Correspondence?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: No.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Meet with City of Niles and Mahoning Valley Sanitary District (M.V.S.D.) - 24" Waterline Project

MR. PETERSON: Okay. First and only item on New Business, * meet with City of Niles and Mahoning Valley Sanitary District (MVSD) regarding the 24" water line project. Do you want to start? Go for it.

MR. KOGELNIK: So, the Village, as everybody probably has read in the newspaper, has advertised for their RFQ for design services for the future 24-inch water line. I think everybody here has understood what that means to the Village in terms of a second redundant water line to the

existing 24-inch water line. And the Village also has U.S. E.P.A. funding attributed to this project, as well as a smaller project on State Route 45 for a water booster station. So, the -- let me see here. Let me just give you the overall visual right here. The red and the yellow line are currently the existing 24-inch transmission line connected to the MVSD Niles transmission line in Niles. The purple line is an alternate line that we would potentially build using the grant money that the Village is going to secure. They do not have it yet secured, but they have to go through the whole process with U.S. E.P.A. to secure that. I think Cindy is going through the administrative functions right now in order to do that. So potentially this purple line would connect to the MVSD high service pump station, and then it would parallel the First Energy overhead easement, it would have to be outside of the easement. And then it would have to cross an existing overhead easement and go through approximately four residential parcels, at which point they could then connect up to the existing 24-inch transmission line. So, if we were to build that, connect it, test it, and we could then understand that through this redundant or alternate path we could realize 8.2 MGD which is the target then we could, you know, validate that the alternate route and the redundant route do exist. If that all was -- if that all worked out, we would return back to here to the MVSD meter pit and that's all the existing 24, and from approximately here to here we would replace or improve that section of water line. This is where we saw the head loss in our modeling, and that's the area that we're concerned about. And if then we could either address all of that or replace all of that, then we would definitely have the redundant path that we need at least up to here. Going beyond here to the existing tank site that would probably be another effort, or if the Village wanted to build all of that they could do that. We have re-nominated all of that project through Ohio E.P.A. WRSLA program. So graphically that's what we're looking at. The existing 24-inch transmission line only can convey approximately half of that target flow, around 4 MGD,

February 18

26

and that's the big problem right now. We are just making it. And you know, for the people that are sitting here what is also on the table I believe still is the 1 million gallons that we could sell additionally to LEC, right?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Yes.

MR. KOGELNIK: So, we really can't do that right now.

Furthermore, we have a project that is going to be built between State Route 45 and Ellsworth-Bailey, Hallock Young Road; and that's going to be a 12-inch connector water line. It's about, I think 1.8 miles or something like that. And that project will start in construction most likely by spring or summer, probably summer; and that will add its own redundant flow path around the biggest part of Lordstown that has commercial and industrial businesses, which is good for redundancy. That's what Ohio E.P.A. wants. Furthermore, that water line is intended to connect Foxconn, which is not hard connected yet. That connection exists on Warren's water line. So, Foxconn, as you probably heard, is going through a 1.2 million square foot building expansion. And it seems like things change there on a daily basis, and we

really don't know exactly what is going on inside their four walls; but we know that they're sort of an up-and-coming business. So that's what we're planning to do. And then like I said, this project also involves a much smaller booster pump station that sits on the southern corporate boundary line of Lordstown, and that booster station right now -- we have one built in 2017 that sits right here that's an EFI design. It's not -- we're not using it right now because our new booster station at the tank site that we have designed for Ultium primarily, what it does is it pulls the water through that yellow and red line. The old booster station pulled it through the yellow line and it pushed it through the red line. So, we don't need the 2017 station, it's brand-new; and we're going to pick it up, carry it to the south property line of Lordstown and Mahoning County and place that new booster station there. The reason is Pritchard Ohltown's booster station is a little bit further to the west that feeds the Ellsworth-Bailey tower, which is on its last leg and we want to replace that. That station will do that. Furthermore, that station has excess capacity in relation to Pritchard-Ohltown. So, in the future if Mahoning County ever came to Lordstown to say hey, we want an emergency connection, that booster station can now do it. That's our plan. And so that's -- in addition to that we have, as everybody has probably seen, the new 3-million-gallon tank is the tank we flowed off of. The other older 500,000-gallon tank is not being used. Right now, it's a detriment to the Village because it requires operation and maintenance that does nothing. And so, we need -- we want to get rid of that tank. Part of this project would be to demolish that tank. And we've gotten prices to do that, it's around \$150,000.00. So, this is the project. It's important to obviously make the connection with MVSD at the high service pump station, it's important for the Village and the MVSD to agree on that. Furthermore, it's very important for the Village of Lordstown and Niles to understand the ramifications of doing so, or the benefits of doing so. So, the project most likely would proceed sometime starting in design summer of this year. It would take every bit of a couple of years to plow through for design and construction. And like I said, this could be a two-parter. This could be something where -- hi, Mayor.

MAYOR WOODWARD: * Hello.

MR. KOGELNIK: This could be something where the first part, the alternate part, the purple line and that first 2,300 feet coming off of the existing line and this 500,000-gallon tank and the booster station, those four parts get done in part one. And then part two could be from Austintown-Warren Road all the way back to the existing booster station site and tank site. And we would do that similar to how MVSD has their other transmission lines where they would from Austintown-Warren Road to the tank site it would -- they would parallel one another by about 20 feet. And every mile we would have like a valved interconnect so that if we want -- if one of those lines went down, we could switch over. So that's what our plan is. A lot of this was mainly to allow MVSD to understand who is on Council, that is going to be

communicating with them, and that is Mr. Mark McGrail. He's the chairman of the Utilities Committee. And the reason why that's so important is because this project exists, to a large part, outside of the Village corporate boundary line, and that has to get Council's decision-making and approval. The BPA cannot just do this alone. The Board of Public Affairs can, you know, have that direction on the inside of the Village boundary line but not outside. So that's why the two parties are meeting with you all from MVSD.

MVSD REP: I mean, you know, we've indicated through meetings and in writing that we would cooperate and allow the connection and provide the next easements through MVSD property. So that's more or less our involvement with it, so you know, Chris.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep. And thank you for offering to do that. We're going to need that cooperation. And so, during the design process, I mean there's probably going to be a lot of preliminary planning that goes on and coordination for survey, understanding how to cross the overhead easement. That's not exactly an easy thing to do anymore, although you would think it would be. The stream crossing and also right at the main pump station there would probably be a meter pit valve.

MVSD REP: Yes.

MR. KOGELNIK: So those are some of the things that we have discussed. We've -- my company has prepared a number of reports for all of this. We've shared some of that with you all. Is there anything that I can answer here, anything more?

MR. PETERSON: I don't think there's anything -- I don't have anything you can answer. I guess my biggest question is, is Niles aware of this, that we would be directly connecting to you guys and are they okay with it, is there a process they have to go through? I kind of thought Niles was going to be here too, so --

ATTY. RIES: So, based on my --

MR. PETERSON: Have you talked to them?

ATTY. RIES: Based on my discussions with their law director, you know, of course he can't speak for Council or the mayor or anybody else; but they didn't have a problem with this alternate connection we'll call it as long as -- we have exclusivity provisions under our contract with Niles, ultimately we buy the water from them. So as long as they're not being usurped in this whole thing, which they're not, as long as we stay their customer they don't really care where we connect, based on my discussions with the law director. Now again, he can't speak for the entire city, but he would need to, you know, confirm that with everyone, and we would need to amend our current agreement to reflect that understanding. My understanding is as long as we're buying the water from them it's not an issue.

MR. SULLIVAN: I think if the -- with us going back and redoing the portion that already is slowing us down.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, that's what part of our plan is, Mike. We definitely need that redundancy. But the first things are first. If we can build that first section and make that connection and then prove to ourselves that we could have that 8.2 million gallons per day target, then the Village

can be assured that they could sell more water to LEC and maybe even Foxconn and other customers in the future while doing whatever they need to do on this yellow line, and also if they wanted to, to add to that by going from Austintown-Warren Road west and making another parallel path. So that's what we're striving for. Like I said, we got -- we have some money through U.S. E.P.A., we need to use that fast because all too often, we're hearing funding being pulled back and that's why we're trying to move quickly. So --

MR. PETERSON: Before you get too far into this, Matt, is there a procedure that Niles needs to take to okay this connection? I just don't want to spend a bunch of money preparing that way and then something happened that Niles Council says no, we're not doing it, we're not letting them do that.

ATTY. RIES: It would be through our amended agreement that they would approve the connection. I'm not aware of a reason why they could

February 18

26

prevent that connection as long as the contract is with them as the customer. So, what we would want to do is just amend the agreement, and they would have to explain it to Council to get their approval to amend the agreement for the second line.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Are they working with you on that?

ATTY. RIES: No. They were going to wait for the outcome of this meeting.

MR. PETERSON: Outcome of this meeting, okay.

ATTY. RIES: Yeah.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Mark, do you have anything to add or any questions or -- I know you're kind of coming into this --

MR. McGRAIL: I was going to say I'm learning on the fly.

MR. PETERSON: I do know I got an e-mail -- actually Ernie forwarded me an e-mail. The money that we have can be used to demolish the old tank. I don't know if we ever had that answer.

MR. KOGELNIK: No. Thank you.

MR. PETERSON: He just e-mailed it to me on Monday I think.

MR. KOGELNIK: How did he get that?

MR. PETERSON: I think because he had talked to the E.P.A. on something.

MR. KOGELNIK: So, Carolyn Banks.

MR. PETERSON: So, he sent that to me on Monday. That's good.

MR. KOGELNIK: That's real good.

MR. CZECK: Does the District already have the pumping capacity?

MVSD REP: Yes. Yeah, it's not an issue.

MR. PETERSON: And that's where you guys feel we should connect to?

MVSD REP: Well, to give you definitely redundant connection. That way the 24-inch Niles fails for some reason, you got the high service coming out of the pump station as an alternate feed. So yeah, you get good redundancy with these two different connections.

MR. KOGELNIK: We have talked about just following that yellow

line and there's a space issue, you know, lateral room in the road right-of-way. There's an existing Niles line when you get closer towards State Route 46. And then I think we talked with Joe Woodley that if we were to connect to one of the outside 20s instead of the 24 that also presents a possible problem for MVSD in serving Niles. And so that connection directly to the high service pump station helps to avoid that complexity.

MVSD REP: Plus, those lines are almost 100 years old and they are cast iron.

MR. KOGELNIK: There you go.

MR. PETERSON: Now would you guys give us an easement on your property? Is that you guys or is that Niles or Youngstown or how does that work?

(At this time, several people are talking at the same time, and their separate comments are inaudible.)

MVSD REP: And you know, we've talked to the Board about that. They're receptive to that, so the easement's not a problem.

MR. PETERSON: So, you said there was a big portion of the line that's going to be on their property, correct?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah. Probably 70 percent of that blue line is on MVSD property. The rest is on I think four or five individual residential parcels.

MVSD REP: And that saves some distance, correct Chris?

MR. KOGELNIK: It saves distance. There's a risk in everything, and the risk there is the environmental clearance because we're going through woods and we have to -- I think we have to cross the overhead transmission line twice. So, you know, there's a risk in doing that. But we think that there's less risk in that path than that yellow path.

MR. SULLIVAN: I know right now we're a million gallons short, LEC --

February 18

26

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep.

MR. SULLIVAN: And we got the \$3 million line going to Foxconn. Will we have water to go through the line?

MR. KOGELNIK: Well --

MR. SULLIVAN: You're saying two years.

MR. KOGELNIK: Yes, we would. But it's not to the level, the rate, and the pressure that we would need, okay. So now that line isn't providing rate and it's not providing pressure, okay. That line for Hallock Young Road derives its pressure from the 3-million-gallon tank's elevation, okay. So, the pressure that we provide through there wouldn't change by way of this project, but we could keep that tank replenished by way of this project. That's the objective. Right now, we are just getting by with filling that tank primarily overnight, and we need to -- we need to do better than that because if other businesses are coming in you need to have that reliability that you can serve them.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Well, we're meeting the needs as they are, not --
- LEC wants to pull that extra million gallons per minute per contract. We're not providing that. Correct?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, I guess that's technically correct.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: LEC phoned last year and wants more water off of our current Lordstown system. We can't do that without the level -- like he was allowing them to float a little bit higher when Warren did some work last month, they decreased their usage to LEC. But it was because Ultium's down we were able to supply that water. Ultium is not in production or operations right now, so he allowed them to increase their take. But when Ultium's operating we don't have the -- we're a million gallons short contractually to supply LEC.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Anybody have anything else?

ATTY. RIES: Is Tom Wilson still the attorney for LEC?

MVSD REP: Yes.

ATTY. RIES: I'll reach out to him because there might be in this amendment, you know, some agreements with MVSD directly since it's on your property. But you know, I'll work on starting to get that coordinated between Niles and Tom Wilson.

MVSD REP: Yeah, he is aware of that.

MR. PETERSON: Mayor, you had something?

MAYOR WOODWARD: I did. I just want to let everybody know that a couple weeks ago I had lunch with the current Youngstown mayor, and we had a good conversation about the Village's needs and we'll need for this water line. And he let me know that he talked with his water commissioner and had a conversation about it, and he was going to give him my contact information so that I could continue the conversation with the water commissioner here in the near future. So, I've already expressed to Youngstown that this is necessary for us, and he understood that and he understood the greater good it was for everybody involved. So, we've already started that conversation with Youngstown.

MR. KOGELNIK: Sounds like a lot of good things are going in the right direction.

MR. PETERSON: So -- cool. Does anybody have anything else? Anybody? Nope?

MR. KOGELNIK: What would we follow-up -- it is 2:30, do you have to scoot?

ATTY. RIES: That's okay, five more minutes.

MR. KOGELNIK: What would we need to follow-up with Niles?

ATTY. RIES: If you could send me that, I'm going to send it over to Phil and Steve and say this is what we're proposing, you know, we want to make sure you guys are on board. If so, I'm going to prepare an amended agreement basically to take into account the second line.

MR. KOGELNIK: Okay.

ATTY. RIES: Just so they can get eyes on it visually because

Village of Lordstown Board of Trustees of Public Affairs

February 18

26

again, I've only talked to the law director about it; and he said he didn't see why there would be an issue with it. I mean, there's nothing preclusive under the contract about it as long as we're -- we continue to buy water from them, you know. He said that shouldn't be an issue.

MR. KOGELNIK: Is there any -- could you find out if there's any legal requirements on the Village for undertaking this new path because it's technically in Weathersfield Township.

ATTY. RIES: Outside of our contract with Niles?

MR. KOGELNIK: Outside of our jurisdiction.

ATTY. RIES: I'll look into that.

MR. PETERSON: If you have to get something approved through Weathersfield, is what you're thinking?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yeah, yeah. I'm believing that there --

MR. PETERSON: Probably is something, yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: Cindy, when he contacts Niles, do you want him to raise the billing issue?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: We talked about that earlier today, and the amendment will hopefully solidify the interpretation of the agreement.

ATTY. RIES: That will create the opportunity to amend that other provision. I'll reach out to Weathersfield.

MR. KOGELNIK: Thank you.

ATTY. RIES: Can you send me that?

MR. KOGELNIK: Yep.

ATTY. RIES: All right.

MR. KOGELNIK: I don't have anything else everybody.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any Public Comments? Okay.

MEMBER COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Member Comments?

ADJOURNMENT:

MR. PETERSON: Motion to adjourn?

MR. SULLIVAN: So moved.

MR. CZECK: Second.

MR. PETERSON: All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Thank you everyone.

Village of Lordstown Board of Trustees of Public Affairs

February 18

26

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 Board of Public Affairs 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 25th day of February, 2026.

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

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Cinthia Slusarczyk, Clerk

Christopher Peterson, President