

Village of Lordstown Board of Trustees of Public Affairs

June 17

25

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
MEETING OF THE LORDSTOWN VILLAGE BOARD OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS
1455 Salt Springs Road, Lordstown, Ohio
June 17, 2025
4:00 p.m. to 4:50 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
Atty. Matthew Ries, Solicitor

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS taken before me, DEBORAH LAVELLE, RPR, a court reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Ohio on this 17th of June, 2025.

MR. PETERSON: I'd like to call this regular Board of Public Affairs meeting to order. Please stand for the Lord's Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

LORD'S PRAYER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL:

MR. PETERSON: Welcome everyone. I would like to, I guess, make a motion to amend the agenda -- make a motion to amend the agenda under New Business for Item 3, add the resignation of Dave Berringer effective June 20. I'll make the motion.

MR. SULLIVAN: Second.

MR. PETERSON: All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed. Roll call please.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Chris Peterson.

MR. PETERSON: Present.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Michael Sullivan.

MR. SULLIVAN: Present.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Stanley Czeck.

MR. CZECK: Present.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Darren Biggs.

MR. BIGGS: Here.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Cinthia Slusarczyk, present. Chris Kogelnik called earlier. He's not able to attend this evening, he's working on other priorities for the Village. And Matt Ries.

ATTY. RIES: Present.

MR. PETERSON: I'll make a motion we excuse Chris Kogelnik.

MR. SULLIVAN: So moved.

MR. CZECK: So moved.

MR. PETERSON: Stanley second. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

APPROVAL AND CORRECTION OF MINUTES:

May 20, 2025

MR. PETERSON: Approval and correction of the minutes for May 20, 2025. Did everybody get a chance to review them.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah. Motion to approve.

MR. PETERSON: Motion.

MR. CZECK: Second.

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MR. PETERSON: Second by Mike. All in favor?
(All respond aye.)

CORRESPONDENCE:

MR. PETERSON: Any correspondence, Cindy?
MS. SLUSARCZYK: No, sir.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Any Public Comments? Okay. Seeing none --

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Resignation of Bruce Pyles Effective June 20, 2025

MR. PETERSON: New Business. First item is the resignation of Bruce Pyles effective June 20, 2025.

MR. CZECK: Did you need a motion?

MR. PETERSON: Yeah.

MR. CZECK: So moved.

MR. PETERSON: Motion by Czeck.

MR. SULLIVAN: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Sullivan. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed. Also, for Bruce Pyles we paid for his waste water collections class, which was a requirement of him to stay employed by us. The amount was \$610. Darren, you can correct me if I'm wrong, he has not obtained the certificate of completion of the class, nor has he?

MR. BIGGS: As far as I know right now, you're correct.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MR. SULLIVAN: He's not taken it.

MR. PETERSON: As far as we know, no. We have nothing documented that says he completed the class. This was on 3/5 of '24 is when the invoice date was. So, I guess I'll make a motion, upon authorization of the employee the \$610 would be deducted from his final paycheck.

MR. SULLIVAN: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Sullivan. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

2. Resignation of Kyle Durig effective June 20, 2025

MR. PETERSON: Okay. The second item is the resignation of Kyle Durig effective June 20, 2025. I'll make a motion, we accept it.

MR. CZECK: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Czeck. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

3. Resignation of Dave Berringer Effective June 20, 2025

MR. PETERSON: And the third item is the resignation of Dave Berringer effective June 20. I'll make a motion.

MR. CZECK: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Czeck. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

MR. SULLIVAN: How do you spell that name?

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MR. PETERSON: B-E-R-R-I-N-G-E-R. Okay. Any other New Business? Do we need to advertise for the positions?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Yeah. We can do that under one of our reports though if you like.

MR. PETERSON: Yep, we can do that. Okay.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. A Resolution recommending that Village Council authorize the Village of Lordstown to enter into a first addendum to the water supply agreement with the City of Warren for the Trumbull Energy Center project

MR. PETERSON: Old Business. The first item is the resolution that's been on the agenda for quite a while for the first addendum to the agreement. Still no action if the --

ATTY. RIES: Chris Kogelnik circulated that e-mail. There's just been no real progress with that contractor from Warren. They're not providing the information in a timely manner. I know Chris has been telling them you guys need to let us know about these crossings so we're not, you know, doing this in a time crunch; and we still don't have the information from them. So, I don't want to speak for Chris, but I don't believe he's going to be attending the status meetings going forward until we see some significant progress from it. But my understanding is the water line is only about 40 percent complete right now, so there's -- we just don't have the information to even review for Chris to approve to finalize that agreement, to revise it.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Good. All right.

2. Rules and Regulations Governing Water Use and Service

MR. PETERSON: Second item, Rules and Regulations Governing Water Use and Service. I guess I'll give the update on that. We met at 2:00 today, reviewed some of it. Everybody has homework, they're going to review and see what changes they're looking at, and we'll meet or do it in a regular meeting.

3. Niles Bulk Water Agreement

MR. PETERSON: All right. Item number 3, Niles Bulk Water Agreement.

ATTY. RIES: So, I did talk to Attorney Phil Zuzolo from Niles last week. We discussed a couple of things. I mean, there's two basic concepts here: revising this agreement so that we're not fighting over how the rate's calculated, and also this redundant water line. Talking about the redundant water line first. You know, I talked to Phil, and we have a clear-cut way -- we think following the First Energy easement and going up Warren Austintown Road would be much more direct, and it would never have to go through the jurisdiction of Niles. And I said, you know, we'd be -- based on Chris' discussions with MVSD, we would be purchasing directly from them. He said wait a minute, you can't purchase from them directly under that agreement, we have exclusivity. However, I don't think Niles would have a problem with you going the direct route to save money on the line; but we would still want to be purchased through our contract through Niles. And he was also in agreement -- all this must be passed by their city council as well. But in talking to the Auditor and the Mayor, he said that he thinks they will also agree to keeping merging our water agreement for the Village along with the LEC agreement keeping the rate language that we've used in there under our interpretation as long as there's some type of mechanism that prevents -- if they're getting charged more by MVSD, then they're able to charge us so they're not selling us water at a loss. That's their concern at the end of the day. They realize it would still be profitable for both municipalities. He just wants that fail-safe clause going in there so they're not selling water at a loss to us if MVSD is selling at a higher rate. So that's where we are with that. I can take -- if you guys want me to, I can take the first stab at drafting some sort of an amended agreement

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that combines the terms from LEC as well as our bulk water agreement, keeping that same language in there if that's what we want to do. Everything I talked to him about was pretty -- kind of, you know, a little bit, I guess, informal in that he talked to the Mayor and the Auditor, and he thinks that they would be okay with it; but it would still have to go to the city council. So -- but it sounds like we're moving in the right direction. I would suggest that we don't draft anything until we have a better idea of what we're going to do with this redundant line, and I think we need more information from Chris on that. But they are okay with the redundant line; not, you know, selling us water from the redundant line.

MR. CZECK: Yeah, I believe as long as they are protecting their interest.

ATTY. RIES: Right.

MR. CZECK: There shouldn't be a problem.

ATTY. RIES: Right. It's no additional work for them.

MR. SULLIVAN: On the other issue that they were concerned with, if that would occur where LEC did raise the rate --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: If MVSD raised the rate you mean.

MR. SULLIVAN: Would that end up going on us?

ATTY. RIES: So, yeah. Well, what would happen would be it would be a -- we would basically have to charge X-amount more than the rate that's being -- we would have to have some type of fluctuating provision in there.

MR. CZECK: A pass-through formula so we would be basically achieving the same percentage.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. Their income wouldn't change; it would just be they would raise their rates whenever MVSD charged.

ATTY. RIES: And we would do the same for our customers. The problem that's always been is our ability to do that because of the way -- because we bill in 90 days.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Would that be considered like we would do that, a yearly review on the average of the year?

ATTY. RIES: Yes, we could. And I don't think it would have to, but there are chances of where it could happen. How do you do that with your other customers where you don't have this problem? How are your other customers' billings? If they are billing somebody, they don't know what they are being charged? He said the other municipalities have a much higher rate; there's more room for profit with the other customers. It's because we have a lower rate than the other municipalities. It's potential they could sell us water at a loss if we keep a fixed rate. He said you guys have by far the lowest rate of other municipalities.

MR. CZECK: And the larger consumers --

ATTY. RIES: He said there's just enough buffer -- we are almost what MVSD charges, there's guaranteed profit for them. So, it's productive, I guess, communicating with them.

MR. PETERSON: That's better than we have had. Does anybody have any questions for Matt on that? Seeing none --

4. Trumbull Energy Center - Warren Waterline

MR. PETERSON: Trumbull Energy Center - Warren Waterline. Darren, do you have any updates?

MR. BIGGS: I don't believe so, no.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. And just a note, I know Matt mentioned it, but Chris will not be attending the meetings until we have some communication from TEC.

5. Trumbull Energy Center - Sanitary Sewer

MR. PETERSON: Item number 5, sanitary sewer, Trumbull Energy Center. Darren, do you have anything on that?

MR. BIGGS: Nothing. I've heard nothing.

MR. PETERSON: I said when I talked to Chris, he didn't have anything. Obviously, that's tied in with them not talking to us.

ATTY. RIES: I know from the e-mails that we received today it's still -- you're talking about whether they're going with Trumbull County or

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Lordstown?

MR. PETERSON: Correct. Well, we're not giving them the option.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: We're under number 4, right?

MR. PETERSON: Number 5.

ATTY. RIES: So yeah, I think we need to stick to our guns on that. From the response that we got today from -- that some of us got today from TEC, there's been some communication. It was a very vague response where they are exploring different options, and we couldn't commit to where they are going. I took that to being they were considering Trumbull County because it was such a wishy-washy response from Pat Harvey.

MR. PETERSON: We drafted a letter that we sent to them, I think it was in March.

ATTY. RIES: I sent a letter to Trumbull County's attorney, to Blair as well. But again --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Is there an application with Ohio E.P.A. public record?

MR. PETERSON: Should be.

ATTY. RIES: Should be, yeah.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I think we need to see what their application says.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any more questions about that?

ATTY. RIES: I will say to the certification from the Siting Board, it doesn't mandate what they do. But they state that TEC was contemplating hooking into our sanitary sewer system. It doesn't mention Trumbull County. Now that doesn't mean that the Power Siting Board would back us up and force them to go with us. It was contemplated though in the certificate, so that's something.

MR. PETERSON: That's something, yeah. Any questions for Matt about that?

6. Project Funding - Eastgate FY2026 ARC Pre-Applications

MR. PETERSON: Item number 6, project funding. I haven't had any updates. Mayor, have you heard anything?

MAYOR WOODWARD: I'm sorry?

MR. PETERSON: Any project funding stuff?

MR. CZECK: Chris is working on that.

MR. PETERSON: I know Chris is working on that. I don't know if he talked to you about anything.

MAYOR WOODWARD: He submitted -- we had some late letters come in, letters of support, and he had submitted those. And I think the cut-off for one was already past, but the other one I think accepted it and put it where it needed to go.

8. Salt Springs Road Booster Station Relocation

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Item number 8, Salt Springs Road Booster Station Relocation.

ATTY. RIES: So, our appraiser went out there Friday without incident. It was -- he was out there, inspected the property. He told me to give him until July 1, and he'll get a report together. And we're in the process of getting the debris estimate to him now for the removal because the foundation was buried under -- when the house was removed, the foundation was buried and the basement. So, we're getting estimates for that, which he'll then take into account to put together an estimate or an appraisal, which if we have it July 1, we'll then send it out to the homes, and that starts our 30 day period before we can move forward with eminent domain. And hopefully it's productive once they see an arms-length appraisal, but I don't know. So, the wheels are in motion on that.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Chris, you skipped 7.

7. Proposed Hallock Young Road Water Line Improvements

MR. PETERSON: I did. I'm sorry. Item number 7, going back, Proposed Hallock Young Road Water Line Improvement. Do we have any updates

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on that? I haven't heard anything.

9. Imperial Sewer Agreement

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Item number 9, Imperial Sewer Agreement.
ATTY. RIES: I don't have any updates.

10. Utility Department Building

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Item number 10, Utility Department building. Have you guys made a decision yet?

MAYOR WOODWARD: No. Martin and I, we need to schedule another work session with Council. I haven't done that because he was out-of-town last week. But Martin and I have some work-ups of floor plans for the library building, and we wanted to present those to Council and see what their thoughts were on that. So, to be continued.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any questions? Okay. Seeing none --

11. I&I

MR. PETERSON: Item number 11, I&I. Darren, do you have any updates on --

MR. BIGGS: I Ordered a riser for a grinder. When it gets here hopefully, we can get it put on and I can update you on it at the next meeting. Hopefully it will be complete to see if we can get more of them or how it fits or --

MR. CZECK: So how would that --

MR. BIGGS: Correct, yeah, for the pit. So as soon as it gets here, I'll see what we can do. I'll supposedly get a report yes, this will work, or we need to look elsewhere.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: At the last meeting you also asked about the report about what we're being billed and to what we're billing against. And I prepared like a template for the billing clerk to get those calculations in for me and to go back. I know she's working on it. It is not complete. But that has been started as well.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Cool. Any questions?

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Public Comments. Any other public comments?

REPORTS:

1. Solicitor's Report

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Reports. Solicitor's Report.
ATTY. RIES: No report.

2. Engineer's Report

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Engineer's Report. He did not have a written report yesterday, so I didn't have anything. I do know that he mentioned at the Council meeting he had submitted stuff to the Superintendent regarding installing the redundant water line from here to the booster station. Darren, I know I talked to you about it last night. You're still reviewing it, right?

MR. BIGGS: I did look over what he had put on there. I have some questions about it. I didn't like some of the things I seen. But regardless of that, right now I'm not looking to agree with that portion of it, spending the money on that. I've been working with the other engineers, you know, from -- with him, and we're looking at -- we got a huge pressure loss between 1 and 3 for the air release and from the MVSD vault to the first air release which is number 9. I've contacted Niles and MVSD -- MVSD for their support of not changing over their pumps or not shutting them down and not giving Niles water or keeping their water going. And then hopefully Friday I'm trying to organize all this, we can retest every one of them. I want to take those two variables out of there to make sure that our readings that we got before are accurate before we authorize spending any money for what the problem could be. That's where I'm at right now.

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MR. PETERSON: Okay. So, there could be an issue at the vault between the vault and number 9, but you don't know until you take --

MR. BIGGS: That's correct. We were getting a grip on that, that was more than all the other ones. And then in between -- one's out here between 1 and 3 also. So -- but when we got all the readings on there I'm not sure if Niles did anything different, if MVSD did anything different. I want to take those arms out, get a reading on all of them again, run that through the chart and go from there before we spend any money. So hopefully I can get that done. Friday is going to be what I'm shooting for. If I can organize that with Niles and MVSD and ours, that's what I would like to do.

MR. PETERSON: That makes sense. Okay.

3. Utility Committee Report

MR. PETERSON: Item number 3, Utility Committee Report.

MR. BOWEN: I don't have anything because Darren just covered it.

4. Clerk's Report

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Clerk's report, item number 4.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I'm just confirming -- Darren may have this under his report -- is we need permission to advertise for the vacant positions within the Water Department. And secondly, we also have the need for the appointment for Jacob Gearheart for summer help. I don't know if you want to do them under Darren's report or mine, but that's all I have.

MR. SULLIVAN: I thought we did that last month.

MR. PETERSON: We did one --

MR. SULLIVAN: We did Gearheart.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: No, we didn't do Gearheart. We did -- last year's employee.

MR. SULLIVAN: We did Gearheart.

MR. BIGGS: You're thinking Anthony.

MAYOR WOODWARD: I remember you doing Gearheart.

MR. BIGGS: I thought we did Gearheart too.

(Court reporter makes remark about Gearheart being in last meeting's transcript.)

MR. BIGGS: The timeline that we should have --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Anthony Volpini and Jacob Gearheart, we did both.

MR. BIGGS: I think it was at two separate times.

MR. SULLIVAN: I know last meeting we did Gearheart, and I think a meeting before that we did somebody else.

MR. BIGGS: Did it go to Council?

MR. PETERSON: They did not read anybody last night.

MR. BIGGS: Mike, that could be what you're thinking.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Maybe it needed to go to Council.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, I do remember seeing Gearheart.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Summer help, Jacob Gearheart. We'll get that over to the Mayor for the next meeting.

MR. BIGGS: For next week.

MR. PETERSON: It will be two weeks.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Two weeks.

MR. BIGGS: Can we start him without going to Council?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I always thought we could start the process.

(A discussion is had off the record.)

MR. PETERSON: Just checking.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: But they have already -- we already have the establishment of summer help positions, right?

ATTY. RIES: So --

MS. SLUSARCZYK: So, an appointment of somebody to a position must be approved by Council.

ATTY. RIES: The BPA is the statutory board but is not the quote/unquote employer. If one of these employees got fired, they file for worker's comp, file for unemployment, file for wrongful termination, it will

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actually be the Village of Lordstown Council that would be the defendant or the responding party as the employer.

MAYOR WOODWARD: And I do believe that Council approved Anthony Volpini.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: We always do. But I thought historically -- I thought the Board could appoint the employees, and in the process, it was a technicality for the Council to accept who the Board picked.

ATTY. RIES: Appoint, yes. But hire is a little bit different because the section of the Ohio Revised Code that addresses the Board of Public Affairs, it basically says that anything not delegated to the Board of Public Affairs falls on Council; and it doesn't specifically say hiring or firing employees, it says managing employees.

MR. PETERSON: I think it's 735.1(A) says here, I think.

ATTY. RIES: I would double-check that.

MR. PETERSON: Is it 735.1?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: You know how many numbers go through my head.

MR. PETERSON: I don't know why I know that number.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I always thought that was once they set the number of positions everything else was within the Board's control. I could be mistaken. And again, I'm saying historically. It does not mean that that was --

ATTY. RIES: No. And I understand that's the way it was done. I mean, I will look into that again because I know we looked into that issue not too long ago. I will look into that issue just to be sure.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MR. BIGGS: Are we saying that Jacob cannot start until Council nods their head?

MAYOR WOODWARD: Is his pre-employment testing done and background check?

MR. BIGGS: Yes.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Can Council do it retroactively, Matt?

ATTY. RIES: I mean, yeah. I mean, I don't know if people are going to want to start doing that though. Now we've got somebody who's employed by the Village, you know, who's not -- let's say something happens next week and he's not been approved by Village Council and he's in an accident or something. I would say wait until the next meeting. I mean, that's my lawyer answer. If you guys want to do something differently from a practical standpoint you can.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Well, I guess double-check on ordinance or codified, whatever, Ohio Revised Code 735, whatever. And then let me know whether or not I need to get that on the agenda for Council. I mean, if not then he could start.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Yeah. I always understood after the Board made their appointment the purpose of it going through Village Council was because the Clerk's office would be cutting the payroll checks, and that's the Council's authorization to the Clerk to issue payroll and proceed with that. The paper logistic side of the employment.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Either way, let me know.

ATTY. RIES: Yeah, let me look into that. Because we looked into that not too long ago, but I will double-check.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. So, the second item would be to advertise for our open positions. Now --

MR. SULLIVAN: Do we need a motion on each one of them?

MR. PETERSON: No, I think we can do it all three at once, I believe. But before we do that, I think we need to discuss -- we have the foreman's position open currently. We only have one other employee right now obviously. Do we want to fill that position with that employee and then advertise for three labor positions?

MR. BIGGS: That's my recommendation.

MR. PETERSON: I was going to say that's your recommendation.

MR. BIGGS: It is.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Are you guys okay with that?

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MR. CZECK: Yes.

MR. PETERSON: I make a motion we move Mike --

MR. BIGGS: Fuchilla, right.

MR. PETERSON: -- from the laborer's position to the foreman's position effective -- is it June 22 would be in the new payroll?

MR. BIGGS: 23rd.

MR. PETERSON: 23rd.

MR. BIGGS: Monday.

MR. PETERSON: Effective June 23.

MR. BIGGS: Well, you have approval on that. I would still like to discuss that with him.

MR. PETERSON: I'd like to offer the foreman's position -- I make a motion we offer the foreman's position --

MR. BIGGS: I think it's fair I talk to him. I didn't want to prior to this. I didn't want to get his hopes up because I know how politics are.

MR. PETERSON: I make a motion we offer the foreman's position to Mike Fuchilla effective June 23, dependent on him accepting it.

MR. BIGGS: I want to say I haven't officially overruled it yet.

MR. SULLIVAN: That makes a difference in what we advertise for.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: That's what he just clarified; that instead of the ad reading a foreman and two laborers, he said permission to advertise for three laborer's positions provided we offer the foreman's position to our current employee Mike Fuchilla.

MR. SULLIVAN: Yeah. But what I'm saying, if Mike doesn't want it --

MR. CZECK: Well, let's do it this way. Advertise the foreman and laborers. Whether we hire anybody or not will have nothing to do with Mike taking the position.

MR. BIGGS: The only difference, Stan, with that is we only have certain slots, so it will make a difference. We must put exactly what is going to be open. So, if it's a foreman and two laborers or laborers, then take that out.

MR. PETERSON: Let's make this easy. Let's advertise for two laborer positions, and at the next meeting we will advertise for the third one. Will that work? And then if Mike does not accept the foreman's position it would be --

MR. BIGGS: I'll talk to him right away. I can update -- I don't know what you want to do. I may know tonight, and Cindy will know what to advertise for.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Just because the ad could be like \$700.

MR. PETERSON: Okay.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: There's an expense.

MR. BIGGS: I didn't want to offer it to him without talking to you guys.

MR. PETERSON: Let's act on the motion we have now. So, we have a motion to move Mike upon contingent he accepts it. I made the motion.

MR. CZECK: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Czeck. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion is passed. Motion to advertise based on Mike's acceptance of the foreman's position -- correct me if I'm not doing this right -- for laborer and operator, correct? Is it laborer/operator? If Mike does not accept the position, then you would advertise for a foreman's position.

MR. BIGGS: Uh-huh.

MR. SULLIVAN: But we'll know that by the time we advertise?

MR. PETERSON: You'll know that by the time you advertise?

MR. BIGGS: Yeah, I would like to. We almost have to, right?

MR. PETERSON: So I'll make that motion.

MR. SULLIVAN: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Sullivan. All in favor?

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(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: All opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed. Okay. So -- and you have no end date on that because we're going to --

MR. BIGGS: I would like no end date on there, right.

MR. PETERSON: All right. Anything else, Cindy?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: No. The other thing we need to keep in mind, if Darren is happy with the review or the work with that second 24-inch water line, if that is progressing, that quit for the RFQs for the engineering is required to step. If that's favorable keep that in mind, that needs to happen as you're doing that. We got to get that committee back on a meeting and advertise out there.

MR. PETERSON: So, Darren, let us know as soon as you know something and we'll keep the ball rolling.

MR. BIGGS: That's fine. I guess that brings up one more question as long as we brought that up. That grant for that part of the project, is that the one that does expire or doesn't expire or -- and I don't want to lose that either.

MR. PETERSON: You're talking about the 4.2?

MR. BIGGS: Correct.

MR. PETERSON: We've heard conflicting knowledge about it, so I don't want to tell you whether it does or not. But we need to move forward with spending the money so if it does, we still utilize it.

MR. BIGGS: I was just wondering if I have a timeline because I don't want to lose it.

MR. PETERSON: What is -- you have a timeline.

MR. BIGGS: What is it?

MR. PETERSON: One month. Is that enough time?

MR. BIGGS: It should be. I don't want to lose that either, you know.

MR. PETERSON: We've been told it doesn't, we've been told it does, so I don't know. We don't have anything documented either way.

MAYOR WOODWARD: I think it's a period of years.

MR. PETERSON: I don't think we're up against the gun.

MR. BIGGS: That's fine.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: With that grant that you do have it's 80/20. So, if you do proceed --

MR. PETERSON: It's 20 percent.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Yes.

MR. PETERSON: It's 20 percent on us, okay. Anything else?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: No. If you have questions for me --

MR. PETERSON: Any questions for Cindy?

MR. SULLIVAN: So, we want to take -- Chris recommended at the last meeting we take that 4.2 or whatever and run from here to the substation, correct?

MR. PETERSON: Here to the booster station, correct? Darren wants to make sure that that is where truly the issue is, correct?

MR. BIGGS: Yeah. The only thing, in discovery with running our tests, if we find a problem somewhere else, I'd rather put the money there, okay. By putting it here it's putting a redundant line for a good portion of it, I don't have any issue with that. I just think I'd like to make sure before we spend that money, I'd like to spend it properly and not just throw it in.

MR. PETERSON: It's something to keep in mind. If it is there where you think it is at the MVSD vault, or it may be that we would have to speed up stuff with Niles because that would be where we're running it away from the line so we wouldn't be able to connect that until we got to Salt Springs again. Is that correct? That's where we're running down the power lines and tapping in at a different place at MVSD.

MR. BIGGS: The first part of that though was, Chris --

MR. PETERSON: If your issue tends to be at the MVSD vault and

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not here, that would have to speed stuff up with Niles, you would have to run that line. It wouldn't be next to the other line; it would come across the power lines and meeting at --

MR. BIGGS: That's what is proposed. There would be no interconnect until we get to Austintown Warren Road.

MR. PETERSON: Just to put it on everybody's radar if that's where the issue is, we would have to speed up the Niles --

MR. BIGGS: You're talking about the new -- you're correct, yes. Yes, correct.

MR. PETERSON: Okay. Any questions for Cindy?

5. Superintendent's Report

MR. PETERSON: Superintendent's Report.

MR. BIGGS: Hydrants, we have had some hydrants hit. I need to replace some. I got a quote for three of them for \$11,647.02. If I can get permission to purchase three more.

MR. SULLIVAN: I make a motion to approve the \$11,647.02.

MR. BIGGS: That's it.

MR. PETERSON: To -- what's the company name?

MR. BIGGS: Ferguson.

MR. PETERSON: Ferguson.

MR. SULLIVAN: To replace three fire hydrants.

MR. PETERSON: I'll second that motion. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Motion passed.

MR. BIGGS: We did have another hydrant hit. I'd like permission to find somebody that can fix it for us, contract that out again.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, you're going to have to.

MR. SULLIVAN: Do we have -- do we know who hit it or --

MR. BIGGS: Yeah. Yeah. That -- I just -- to fill you guys in, I keep hydrants back there in case there's something, pieces that we need or if we could do it or whatnot. Obviously, we can't do it now. So, I give the contractor the ones that have been sitting, order newer ones, I try to rotate. So that's correct, it is -- it was another one that was hit. We do have a police report.

MR. PETERSON: So, it would be paid by car insurance up to a certain dollar amount.

MR. BIGGS: It should be. The last one also. I can't say these are reimbursable, but they are because they are being hit so we're not actually paying for them. I'm rotating them is what is happening. Instead of putting it on the contractor, I'm getting rid of the '24s back there so I can order '25s. Does that make sense?

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, yeah. So, you just need permission to find somebody to do work.

MR. BIGGS: To look for quotes to get another hydrant fixed.

MR. PETERSON: I'm good with that. Are you guys, okay?

MR. CZECK: Yeah.

MR. BIGGS: An update on the summer help. Anthony, he's not getting back with JoEllen to get his stuff done. Nobody has heard anything from him. So, I don't know what is happening with that.

MR. PETERSON: So, you currently have no summer help working?

MR. BIGGS: That's correct.

MR. PETERSON: I would say -- how long has it been?

MR. BIGGS: I would guess that she's been trying for probably two weeks now.

MR. SULLIVAN: Do you have any other applicants?

MR. BIGGS: I'll go back through them, Mike, but I don't believe there were. Just giving you an update. He may call me tomorrow. I'm just letting you know that I've tried getting a hold of him too, and it's not like him not to --

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MR. PETERSON: Here's what I would say, tell me if you guys agree. I would say wait one more week. If he doesn't, you're going to have to re-advertise and fill the position. Is everyone okay with that?

MR. SULLIVAN: Well, I'd say go back through the applications.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, go back through the applications.

MR. BIGGS: It was more of an update. I'd have to do that. But don't forget, we don't hire an amount of people, we hire an amount -- dollar amount. So, I mean, even if we went ahead and got three, you know, if he did come, we can make the choice then.

MR. SULLIVAN: We don't have to advertise again, do we?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: No.

MR. SULLIVAN: We already approved of the \$10,000 or whatever it is.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah. So, I guess we wouldn't.

MR. BIGGS: It was more of an update. I can update you as soon as I hear anything, but I'm hoping he gets a hold of me. Last I heard, Mike Fuchilla can come back on Monday. He had a doctor's appointment today; they cleared him for very light duty. So minimum, but I believe -- and I'll double-check, but I believe that he can come back on Monday.

MR. PETERSON: Do we have a light duty?

MR. BIGGS: We'll find something. There's plenty to do now. I think we're going to be okay.

MR. CZECK: Reading meters and stuff is all light duty.

MR. PETERSON: We have a light -- I guess my question is we have a light duty in the Village, right?

MR. BIGGS: There's nothing -- we have work that's -- but there's no --

MR. SULLIVAN: No written --

MR. BIGGS: There's nothing written, no.

ATTY. RIES: I guess just make sure that he has something from his doctor within the parameters since we don't have specifically light duty positions. Just lifting maximum, stuff like that.

MR. BIGGS: Yeah, yeah, definitely. But this was sooner than he thought he was coming back anyhow, so good news. I did talk to Martin Nelder. We discussed his guys helping out and how we're going to do things. It went well. He has no issue with that. We've done it before. So, I just wanted to update you guys on that, that hopefully we'll be okay.

MR. PETERSON: If they're helping us, do we assume the pay?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: We do, yes.

MR. PETERSON: And that's all done by you guys internally, correct?

MS. SLUSARCZYK: As long as he indicates or Martin indicates on the time sheet that it was Water. It's just the department; it's a coding thing done during payroll. It's very simple.

MR. PETERSON: I just want to make sure we're paying our fair share.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: Absolutely. And Martin knows whether it's plowing for snow or Streets and Roads or Parks, he indicates that. We just got to make sure, confirm to him that, you know, let us know whatever the -- or Darren lets us know.

MR. BIGGS: We talked about that today. I told him we're not looking to -- I figured we'd pay him anyway. Only seems right.

MR. PETERSON: Yep.

MR. BIGGS: I mean, if it's an hour to help us flag, we go back and forth. Finding somebody all day, yeah, correct.

MR. PETERSON: If you have somebody all day --

MR. BIGGS: I guess one last thing. I was wondering if I could get permission to get quotes for cellular meters, all the residential meters.

MR. PETERSON: I have no problem with that.

MR. BIGGS: We had them here before, but it's been a while since -- he discussed with us on what he could do for us, and I'd like to get the prices.

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MR. SULLIVAN: Cellular meters?

MR. PETERSON: Replacing the meters. I don't know if we need a motion.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: I was going to say don't you need bid specs. A project of that size is going to be more than our threshold, so you must have a bid book prepared saying this is what you're looking for and then release that.

MR. BIGGS: Well, the only thing I'm looking for is -- I don't want to waste my time if the Board isn't going to approve of something like that anyway. That's all I'm looking to do.

MR. CZECK: If we can get a general idea, there's no promises there, I think that would be more --

MR. BIGGS: It's just to get quotes. If they were totally against it, I wouldn't waste my time. That's all I'm looking for.

MR. SULLIVAN: We just discussed that. And if we did that for the whole Village, we would have to go out for a loan.

MR. PETERSON: Yeah, it's --

MR. SULLIVAN: That would involve Council and --

MR. BIGGS: If that's something we want to go through. I'm saying I can get a ballpark, I can get quotes to give you guys a better idea on where we stand.

MR. SULLIVAN: So, can you get the quotes without us doing the motion?

ATTY. RIES: Yeah. This is just informal so we can go out -- you guys aren't binding -- he's not binding anyone to anything; he just doesn't want to waste his time.

MR. BIGGS: That's all it is, yeah.

MR. SULLIVAN: Okay.

MR. PETERSON: Move forward.

MR. CZECK: Sound good.

MR. BIGGS: And that's all I got. Has anybody got anything for me?

MR. PETERSON: Anybody have any questions for Darren? Seeing none --

MEMBER COMMENTS:

MR. PETERSON: Member Comments. Mike?

MR. SULLIVAN: No.

QUARTERLY APPROVAL OF BILLING ADJUSTMENTS:

January, April, July, and October

MR. PETERSON: Any billing adjustments? No. Motion to -- oh, I'm sorry. Do have something under Member Comments? The second meeting in July I will probably not be here. It's contingent on whether my daughter makes it to State, but I'll be in Columbus. So, I don't know if you guys want to have a meeting and move forward without me.

MR. SULLIVAN: It's up to you.

MR. PETERSON: It doesn't matter to me either way. By the next meeting we need to make a decision. I'll know by then.

MR. CZECK: Why don't we go ahead and cancel. She can send the notice. And if we have to first meeting, we can add a meeting.

MR. PETERSON: We can add a meeting, correct.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: It's the same work. I would wait until your next meeting and then cancel it because to put it on and put it off will be confusing to the public.

MR. CZECK: Do it at the same time.

MS. SLUSARCZYK: You can cancel it next month on the 16th.

MAYOR WOODWARD: Are you going to continue to do two meetings a month for the remainder of the year?

MR. PETERSON: For right now, unless something changes and all the projects in Lordstown get done and --

MR. CZECK: Back to normalcy.

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ATTY. RIES: Because we amended our Codified Ordinance to amend that to two times a month and there was no sunset. The idea was so we don't have to call several special meetings. If we want to, we must just amend the Codified Ordinance again, going back to once a month.

MAYOR WOODWARD: I just couldn't remember, and it dawned on me.

ADJOURNMENT:

MR. PETERSON: Motion to adjourn. I'll make the motion.

MR. CZECK: Second.

MR. PETERSON: Second by Czeck. All in favor?

(All respond aye.)

MR. PETERSON: Opposed.

(No response.)

MR. PETERSON: Thank you everyone.

(Meeting adjourns at 4:50 p.m.)

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 23rd day of June, 2025.

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

Submitted by:

Approved by:

Cinthia Slusarczyk, Clerk

Chris Peterson, President