

**Record of Proceedings  
Regular Village of Peninsula Council**

**Held: Tuesday, March 11, 2025**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Schneider called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Daniel Schneider, Jr.	Present	George Haramis	Present
Richard Slocum	Present	John Najeway	Present
Daniel Schneider	Present	Eliud Rosales	Present
Douglas Steidl	Absent		

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Solicitor Brad Bryan, Fiscal Officer Katie Iaconis, Administrative Assistant Faith Dorton, Police Chief Jay Nagy.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** None.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS:**

**February 11, 2025 Regular Council Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Haramis made a motion to approve the Minutes. Mr. Najeway requested an edit to the citizen participation section of the minutes that referenced the request for Mr. Bryan to issue a letter to the trash service company about not starting pickup prior to the time of day permitted in the contract. Mr. Bryan stated he and Ms. Dorton addressed those concerns with the Village Republic Representative. The Rep confirmed the drivers started too early on several occasions over the last couple of months. Republic's plan going forward is to not pick up in the Village until 9:00 a.m. Council requested any resident who has concerns with the garbage service going forward to reach out to the Village, for the website to request residents to notify the Village of any garbage pickup issues, and for this information to be put in Your Community News. Mr. Najeway then seconded Mr. Haramis' motion since the issue has been adequately addressed. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The Minutes were approved.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

Mo Riggins addressed Ohio Senate Bill 104, which, if passed, would severely restrict the Village's ability to regulate short-term rentals. The Mayor reported a letter expressing the Village's opposition to the Bill that was sent to the Ohio Senate Local Government Committee. Mr. Bryan explained the Local Government Committee held hearings on the Bill last week and sought testimony and correspondence for and against the proposed legislation. The Mayor confirmed the updated short-term rental list will be posted on the website.

Jodi Padrutt read a letter discussing her concerns over the Mayor's behavior in the February 2025 Council meeting, especially in regards to Councilman Slocum when he initiated a discussion of the Solicitor's contract renewal. Since Mr. Bryan also serves as Northfield's Law Director, Ms. Padrutt attended Northfield's meeting the next day and reported on her observations of Mr. Bryan's role at Northfield. She stated there while Mr. Bryan sits next to the Mayor, their Mayor runs the meeting and there are no interruptions, comments or taking over the conversations by Mr. Bryan as is done in The Village of Peninsula. Ms. Padrutt stated that past actions by the Solicitor, should be addressed, namely insufficient notification of impacted

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residents of zoning changes; not advising the Planning Commission Chair to recuse herself from a single parcel zoning change that would benefit her employer and, as far back as 2018, advising the Village Administrative Assistant that minutes were not required for a Special Planning Meeting (which are required by Ohio Sunshine Law), which to this day there is no agenda or minutes on the Village website. Ms. Padrutt requested professional decorum and professionalism moving forward.

Greg Canda asked about a property that is undergoing work off of 303 but was unable to determine the address. He was advised the project involves a new detached garage. He wanted to know the best way to research the plans for that lot and to address the concerns of the residents. Ms. Dorton requested that when anyone calls the Village about any building or zoning issues to please provide an address.

**REPORTS:**

**Mayor, Daniel Schneider, Jr.:** The Mayor addressed the fire that destroyed Eddy's Bike Shop. He read the letter the Fire Chief sent to him regarding the incident indicating that the source of the fire is presently unknown. The Mayor congratulated a Woodridge High School Student who won a state wrestling championship.

**Fiscal Officer, Ms. Iaconis:** Ms. Iaconis noted the Budget Ordinance is on the agenda for passage this evening, and it needs to be adopted and sent to the County by the end of March. She reminded Council that budget amendments can be made at any point throughout the year. She then went through the highlights of the budget with Council. She then excused herself from the Meeting so that she could attend her daughter's birthday party.

**Street Commissioner, Mr. Anderson:** The Mayor reported Mr. Anderson had nothing to report.

**Finance Liaison, Mr. Slocum:**

**Acknowledgement of Receipt of Financial Reports and Ratification of Submitted Bills List**

Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Haramis to acknowledge receipt of the financial reports and ratify the submitted bills list. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved.

**Police Department Liaison, Councilperson Schneider:** Councilperson Schneider thanked the Reserve Officers for their assistance with directing traffic during the ODOT Rt. 303 Project. He noted the Reserve Officers do not get paid and asked if Council wanted to provide them with some compensation for their work. The Mayor noted the Village was notified of the Project start date with just 10 days' notice and had trouble getting regular officers to work that detail. The short notice prevented him from addressing the issue with Council before the work was performed. ODOT left the traffic direction work to the Village because the Village was not paying any of the cost for the road and berm repairs. A discussion took place as to whether the officers should get paid something, and if so, the mechanics of how they could be paid and how much was reasonable. No agreement was proposed or reached on this issue. The Mayor stated he would think about the issue, consider bringing a specific proposal to Council, or take action within his spending authority. Chief Nagy reported the supervisor promotion interviews were

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conducted and a promotional list has been established. The timing of the promotions and officers to be promoted are being discussed.

**Roads and Public Works Liaison, Mr. Haramis:**

Mr. Haramis said there was nothing to report. The Mayor complimented the Rt. 303 road construction work. It was completed a day earlier than planned.

**Planning Commission Representative, Mr. Steidl:** The Mayor stated the Planning Commission did not meet in February.

**Zoning Officer, Mr. Hemming:** The Mayor stated Mr. Hemming had nothing to report.

**Board of Zoning Appeals, Mayor Schneider:**

**Motion to Confirm the Mayor's Appointment of John Shega to a New Five-Year Term on the Village Board of Zoning Appeals Ending on December 31, 2029**

Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Schneider to confirm the Mayor's appointment of John Shega to a new five-year term on the Village Board of Zoning Appeals ending December 31, 2029. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved.

**Motion to Confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Gale "Barney" Barnhart to a New Five-Year Term on the Village Board of Zoning Appeals Ending on December 31, 2029**

Councilperson Schneider made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Slocum to confirm the Mayor's appointment of Gale "Barney" Barnhart to a new five-year term on the Village Board of Zoning Appeals ending December 31, 2029. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved.

**Buildings and Grounds Liaison, Mr. Steidl:** Mr. Najeway reported the Village Hall remodel should be completed by Memorial Day.

**Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development Liaison, Mr. Rosales:** Mr. Rosales announced Reindeer Day may be cancelled or modified due to high insurance costs. The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad intends to make Peninsula the Christmas Capital of Ohio during the holiday season.

**Community Events Liaison, Mr. Najeway:** Mr. Najeway reported the Peninsula Live schedule is set for June, July, and August, and promotional information will be distributed in April.

**Policies & Procedures Liaison, Mr. Slocum:** Mr. Slocum announced he is working on getting the information for the new audio system ready to present to Council.

**Fire Board, Mr. Slocum:** Mr. Slocum reported there were no injuries or loss of life in connection with the Eddy's Bike Shop fire on February 28. There was a strong response from Valley firefighters. Many firefighters worked through the night before heading to their full-time shifts. The District's billing partner, LifeForce, will now automatically send unpaid bills for non-residents to collections, waive balances for residents once insurance payments are received, and

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develop new fees for nuisance calls. Fees have also been instituted for at-fault parties in accidents to permit the Department to recoup money from auto insurance companies for accident responses and cleanup. Mr. Slocum confirmed Boston Heights agreed to split the cost of large expenses, including vehicle purchases and repairs. The two remaining officers continue to fill the holes in the schedule for now, however this will be a bigger problem in the summer when shifts are harder to fill. Multiple free training sessions relating to ice rescue, public information officer training, and natural gas/electric vehicle emergency responses have been held. Both stations have an updated camera system. The district is starting the process to refurbish the expired turnout gear that will allow for extended use. A Firefighter now oversees turnout gear has been refurbished allowing for extended use. Firefighters now oversee vehicle maintenance that is tracked and managed online. The call volume is up by 46% from last year, and new hourly rates have been established for officers in addition to their annual stipends. A Pancake Breakfast will be held at the Dogwood Drive Station on Sunday, May 4.

**Cemetery Board, Councilperson Schneider:** Nothing to report.

**JEDD Board, Councilperson Schneider:** Mr. Slocum reported JEDD revenue is up from last year. The increase should be beneficial for the Township and Village going forward.

**Wastewater/Stormwater/Water Liaison, Mr. Najeway:** Mr. Najeway announced there is no update since the most recent open house. The bid package is expected to be released in May, and construction is expected to commence by the end of summer.

**Area Master Plan, Mr. Slocum and Mr. Steidl:**

**Motion to Schedule Joint Meeting of Planning Commission and Council to Review and Discuss Draft of Area Master Plan – Monday March 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Boston Township Hall**

Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Najeway to schedule a joint meeting of the Planning Commission and Council to review and discuss the draft of the Area Master Plan on Monday, March 24, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. at Boston Township Hall. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved.

**Solicitor, Mr. Bryan:** Mr. Bryan stated he wanted to respond to Ms. Padrutt's comments. He stated the role he performs as the Northfield Village Law Director is no different than the Peninsula Solicitor position. He conducts his work in the same manner for both communities. He emphasized the Village followed State Law in connection with the comprehensive rezoning ordinance that occurred several years ago. He and the Village Planner reviewed the State Statute and complied with it. Individual notice to property owners was not required since more than 10 properties were affected. The process took place in public meetings before the Planning Commission and Council stretching out over several months, and nothing was done in secret.

**LEGISLATION:**

*First Reading:*

**Resolution No. 04-2025**

Requested by: Mayor Schneider and Councilperson Najeway

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**An Emergency Resolution Amending the Employee Position List and Wage Scale Relating to the Position of Zoning Officer**

Mr. Bryan read the Resolution by title. Mr. Najeway made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Haramis to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved. Mr. Najeway made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Haramis to adopt the Resolution. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The Resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 05-2025**

Requested by: Fiscal Officer Iaconis

**A Resolution Establishing the Annual Operating Budget and Setting Forth the Appropriations for 2025**

Mr. Bryan read the Resolution by title. Mr. Najeway made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson Schneider to suspend the three-reading rule. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The motion was approved. Mr. Najeway made a motion that was seconded by Councilperson to adopt the Resolution. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes. The Resolution was adopted.

**Resolution No. 06-2025**

Requested by: Councilperson Najeway

**A Resolution Amending the Rate of Pay for the Mayor for the Term Commencing January 1, 2028**

Mr. Bryan read the Resolution by title. It was determined that this Resolution would advance to a second reading at next month's Council Meeting.

**Resolution No. 07-2025**

Requested by: Mayor Schneider and Councilperson Haramis

**A Resolution Requesting the County Fiscal Officer to Certify to the Village of Peninsula the Amount a 3 Mill, Five Year, Road Tax Renewal Levy Would Generate for the Village**

Mr. Bryan read the Resolution by title. Mr. Slocum asked whether Council should adopt a 3 Mill replacement levy instead of a renewal levy in order to generate more money. Mr. Najeway asked if that Resolution could be prepared for the next Council Meeting. Mr. Bryan suggested Council could pass both Resolutions next meeting, get the projected amounts from the County, and then determine which type of levy to put on the ballot. It was determined that this Resolution would advance to a second reading at next month's Meeting.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Najeway asked the Planning Commission to review modifying the zoning for N. Locust Street to make it residential on both sides of the street. He also asked if the Village could move forward with the crosswalk in front of the Coffee House. Mr. Bryan stated OHM is working on a plan for the crosswalk and that plan would be outlined in the draft of the Area Master Plan that will be presented at the upcoming meeting. Mr. Slocum noted that OHM will be recommending more wayfinding signage around the Village.

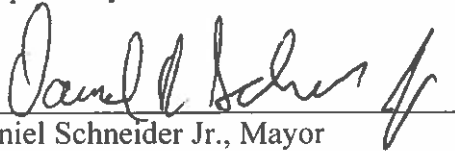
**EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NECESSARY)**

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**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilperson Schneider made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Rosales to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Councilperson Schneider, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Mr.; Mr. Haramis, yes; Mr. Najeway, yes; Mr. Rosales. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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Daniel Schneider Jr., Mayor

4/8/25  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Katie Iaconis, Fiscal Officer

4/8/2025  
Date