

**Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting**

Held: Tuesday, March 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER: The Mayor called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Daniel Schneider, Jr.	Present	Amy Fank-Hensley	Present
Richard Slocum	Present	Daniel Krachinsky	Present
Jodi Padrutt	Present	Eliud Rosales	Present
Moe Riggins	Present		

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor Bryan, Chief Nagy, Administrative Assistant Dorton, OHM Representative Burgoyne, Great Lakes Telecom & Electric Representative Cochran

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA AND AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Presentation from Tom Cochran, Great Lakes Telecom & Electric, LLC, Regarding Meeting Room Recording System

Ms. Frank-Hensley introduced Tom Cochran from Great Lakes Telecom and Electric to present a proposed audio-visual solution for Council Meetings, focused on high-quality, easy-to-use recording and visual presentation capabilities. Mr. Cochran outlined a mobile AV cart with an 85-inch monitor, built-in PC, Logitech camera/microphone/speaker system, with wireless presentation capability and compatibility with Teams meetings. He also discussed a separate recording setup using a rear-mounted camera and microphones to capture meetings with date-stamped video and audio. He explained recordings would be stored locally for several years, could be downloaded to a thumb drive, and could be shared via different methods. The cost is just under \$16,000.

Councilmembers asked questions about reliability, warranties, storage redundancy, sound quality, and backup systems. Mr. Cochran explained the equipment would be owned outright, supported by manufacturer warranties and his own installation support, and be able to be upgraded over time. After concerns were raised about protecting recordings and avoiding a single point of failure, he agreed to revise the quote to include mirrored hard drives for redundancy, with only a modest cost increase that would not exceed \$18,000. Additional discussion centered on the room's poor acoustics and whether sound-deadening treatments or other structural changes would be needed to improve audio quality.

Tony Burgoyne, OHM

Motion to Authorize the Mayor to Execute a Cost Reimbursement Agreement for the Valley Regional Water District Feasibility Study, or an Agreement Substantially Similar Thereto, between the Village of Boston Heights, Village of Peninsula, County of Summit, Conservancy for the Cuyahoga National Park, and Orchard Hiltz & McCliment, dba OHM Advisors ("OHM"), and the Payment of Up to \$33,333.33 to OHM from the Village as its Share of the Cost of the Study

Mr. Burgoyne explained the proposed agreement is for a feasibility study for creating a regional drinking water district involving Peninsula, Boston Heights, and Boston Township. The goal is to evaluate how to bring reliable public drinking water to the area. The current reliance on

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wells and trucked water, as well as fire safety concerns, would be addressed by forming a jointly governed water utility similar in nature and structure to a fire district. The cost of the \$125,000 study would be split among the partners and would assess infrastructure needs, costs, and funding opportunities, including potential federal support tied to national park proximity, water sources, system design, and long-term operations. The study would take three to six months and is intended to give the Village enough information to decide whether to move forward with the next steps. Residents would not be obligated to connect to the system.

Ms. Padrutt raised concerns about inconsistencies and confusion with the nomenclature in the proposal documents. She asked for clarification on wording and cost structure and participating entities. Mr. Burgoyne explained that the words feasibility study and master plan are interchangeable in this context, covering the full scope of work outlined in the \$125,000 proposal, which cost is being split among four contributing partners: Peninsula, Boston Heights, Summit County, and the Conservancy. He clarified the Conservancy can only contribute \$25,000, and the remaining balance is divided among the other three partners, since Boston Township indicated it cannot currently contribute financially. As a result, Peninsula's share is about \$33,000. A discussion took place regarding the cost allocation and partner roles. It was reaffirmed that the request before Council is to approve funding for its portion of the study.

Ms. Padrutt asked about the timeline for the study, noting she didn't see clear deadlines in the proposal. Mr. Burgoyne clarified that a general schedule is included, estimating the study will take about three to six months after approval is received, depending on how quickly information can be gathered. He stated that some flexibility is preferred rather than committing to a strict deadline. He emphasized the study's purpose is to generate enough preliminary data to pursue funding and inform future decisions, with no obligation beyond the study at this stage.

Ms. Frank-Hensley asked how the study would define governance for a potential water district. Mr. Burgoyne explained it would include recommendations on structure, representation, legislation, and rate-setting. Ms. Frank-Hensley also inquired about user projections. Mr. Burgoyne stated those projections would come from regional data, local development trends, and input from participating communities and agencies. Mr. Burgoyne noted the study would involve multiple meetings with local officials and partners to gather information and assess needs, though the exact number of meetings is not yet defined.

Ms. Padrutt questioned the feasibility of completing the study within the proposed timeline. Mr. Burgoyne acknowledged delays could occur and the timing depends on funding opportunities and data collection. He outlined that if the project moves forward, implementation would be long-term, due to high infrastructure costs, elevation challenges, and the need for phased development. He emphasized the current \$33,000 commitment is only for the study to determine feasibility, funding sources, and preliminary system design, with future decisions and investments to follow based on those findings.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS:

February 10, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes

Ms. Frank-Hensley made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Padrutt to approve the Minutes. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms.

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Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The motion was approved. Ms. Riggins stated she feels it is a lack of transparency to adjust anything more than misspellings in the drafted minutes prior to a meeting. Ms. Dorton stated that any edits made prior to the meeting can be addressed with an updated and emailed draft.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

Rick Butler stated he is excited about the new Service Department employee and is happy Mr. Andexler has help. The Mayor noted the new hire is very punctual and eager to work.

OHM WATER FEASIBILITY STUDY AUTHORIZATION VOTE:

Ms. Frank-Hensley asked to return to the water feasibility study topic and made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Slocum to approve the above motion. Ms. Frank-Hensley stated that after hearing more details, she recognized the study as an opportunity to access funding and gather necessary data, even without firm timelines. She emphasized that while many residents want water and others do not, informed decisions require a clear plan and transparency about potential impacts, including development and long timelines for implementation. She recommended if the study proceeds, the Village should communicate with residents to set expectations, clarify that the investment is for information gathering, and ensure the community understands both the benefits and uncertainties involved. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The motion was approved.

REPORTS

Mayor, Daniel Schneider, Jr.: The Mayor stated he will coordinate with the Village Engineer to address the creek bed erosion. He announced tentative Peninsula Live dates for June 5, July 10, and August 7. Two of three bands are already under contract. He noted efforts to improve data security by exploring the purchase of a safe for storing police hard drives, which are currently not well protected. He is in the process of consulting others about sizing and storage needs.

Fiscal Officer, Ms. Iaconis: Ms. Iaconis was unable to attend the meeting due to illness.

Street Commissioner, Mr. Anderson: The Mayor reported he and Mr. Anderson are consulting with the Engineer regarding the work required to fix the sinkhole. He is considering purchasing a \$2,500 ditching bucket for the new backhoe, which would allow the Village to complete the work in-house. He noted the equipment would take a few weeks to arrive, and the final decision will depend on the Engineer's guidance. He is working to establish a direct contact with General Diecasters to further discussions related to that property.

Finance Liaison, Mr. Krachinsky: Mr. Krachinsky made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Slocum to approve the submitted bills list. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The motion was approved.

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Police Department: Chief Nagy stated he had nothing to report.

Roads and Public Works: The Mayor reaffirmed he is hopeful the new Village Service Department employee will work out. He noted the speed signs are expected to arrive around March 25.

Planning Commission, Ms. Frank-Hensley: Ms. Frank-Hensley announced this month's meeting has been moved to March 16 to accommodate Commission Members' schedules. She will review the priority list items geared toward the Planning Commission with the Commission and return with the Commission's input.

Zoning Officer, Mr. Collins: Mr. Bryan shared there is a property being reviewed by the Zoning Officer for code violations. Ms. Dorton added that first quarter taxes for the short-term rentals are due by the end of April.

Board of Zoning Appeals:

Motion to Confirm the Mayor's Appointment of Matthew Padrutt to the Board of Zoning Appeals

The Mayor requested a motion to confirm his appointment of Matthew Padrutt to the BZA. Ms. Padrutt stated she was recusing herself from this matter. Ms. Riggins made that motion that was seconded by Mr. Krachinsky. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt-abstain; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The motion was approved. There will be a BZA Meeting on Monday April 28 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Bryan reported the variance request reviewed at the March 10 BZA Meeting was approved.

Buildings and Grounds: The Mayor noted he is still trying to establish contact with General DieCasters. Multiple companies appear to be conducting testing at the site. He is looking into how to obtain sandstone and conduct the repairs to the Village Hall entrance and sidewalk.

Chamber of Commerce & Economic Development: Council reviewed a Chamber of Commerce update indicating the group is reassessing its direction, goals, and priorities, with a membership meeting scheduled for April 8 at Happy Days Lodge. It was clarified that instead of maintaining a formal Liaison to attend Chamber meetings, Council would invite a Chamber representative to attend Council Meetings to provide updates as needed.

Policies & Procedures Liaison, Mr. Slocum:

Cybersecurity

Mr. Slocum reported he received a \$38,000 assessment proposal from TrustedSec, which appeared too extensive for the Village's small infrastructure. He then contacted Lake Tech, but Lake Tech partners with TrustedSec, so no true second quote was obtained. He is now working with the Village's IT contractor, Tom Sousa, to develop a more tailored compliance plan, focusing on practical steps like staff training, which is available through the State, potential equipment needs, and identifying what work can be handled internally versus outsourced. Additional efforts include exploring grant funding, possible network management services, and refining the scope of work to better match the Village's size and needs before moving forward.

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Updated Public Records Request Policy: Council discussed the updated public records request policy prepared by Mr. Bryan and a detailed internal procedures manual prepared by Ms. Padrutt that includes definitions, request handling steps, response timelines, tracking, and redaction standards. There was agreement to separate those items into two documents. Ms. Padrutt described how her document provided guidance for handling requests based upon their complexity. It was suggested that the Village avoid creating overly rigid requirements that could expose the Village to compliance issues, especially given the Village's limited staffing issues. It was determined that the documents would be further reviewed at the next Council Meeting.

Records Retention Schedule (In Progress): Mr. Bryan stated he is working on preparing an updated Records Retention Schedule. Council discussed the next steps for records retention. The Village needs to inventory older records, determine what can be destroyed, and follow the formal approval process through the Records Commission and Ohio History Connect. There is recognition that significant backlogged records will require organization, categorization, and formal authorization before disposal, making this an ongoing administrative effort.

Events Policy: Ms. Padrutt stated the Village needs a more comprehensive events policy. She feels the current regulations are limited and unclear. Council discussed the distinctions between public and private events, Village-sponsored and third-party events, and requirements such as insurance, police support, road closures, and liquor permits. Concerns included liability, cost responsibilities, security, and rules enforcement. Ms. Padrutt volunteered to draft a policy. Mr. Bryan stated he could send Ms. Padrutt an ordinance sample from another community.

Fire Board, Mr. Krachinsky: Mr. Krachinsky stated he had nothing to report.

Cemetery Board, Ms. Padrutt: Ms. Padrutt shared there is a meeting scheduled for next week.

JEDD Board, Ms. Riggins: Ms. Riggins stated she had nothing to report.

Wastewater/Stormwater/Water: Preliminary construction activity on the wastewater project could begin this year. The timing depends on external factors like Akron's involvement and financial constraints. Residents are asking about connection costs. It was noted that estimates for that work vary by contractor, and financial assistance programs could cover the costs for qualifying residents. The next steps for the water initiative include finalizing the agreements and holding a kickoff meeting with all participating entities, ideally by the end of the month.

Solicitor, Mr. Bryan: Mr. Bryan advised the Village was advised by FirstEnergy that all Village streetlights will be converted to LED lights over the next five years at no cost. The default bulbs will be 3000K unless the Village specifies that it prefers 4000K bulbs or provides a mapped plan as to what bulbs it wants where. Members raised concerns about existing nonfunctional streetlights that need separate reporting and repair, emphasizing safety issues in poorly lit areas. Council agreed to revisit the topic and consider how lighting decisions may align with broader initiatives like streetscape improvements and a potential dark sky ordinance.

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LEGISLATION:

Third Reading:

Resolution No. 03-2026

Requested by: Mayor Schneider and Fiscal Officer Iaconis

A Resolution Establishing the Annual Operating Budget and Setting Forth the Appropriations for 2026

Mr. Bryan read the Resolution by title. Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Krachinsky to adopt the Resolution. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The Resolution was adopted.

Ordinance No. 05-2026

Requested by: Members of Council

An Ordinance Establishing Section 125.08 of the Administrative Code Regarding Meeting Video with Audio Recordings and Meeting Minutes

Mr. Bryan read the Ordinance by title. Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Riggins to approve the Ordinance. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The Ordinance was adopted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:

Prioritized Contract Tracking Table/ Review of Village Contracts: PayByPhone Parking/Wichert Insurance/Cyber Policy/Solicitor Notice Period Addition/Village Planner McMahon Job

Description and Contract:

Ms. Padrutt and Mr. Krachinsky stated they reviewed the Village contracts and prioritized key ones for discussion, including PayByPhone, insurance, and consultant agreements, using AI to flag potential risks and spread renewal timelines more evenly. They emphasized that consultant duties should be defined within contracts and that they would continue to review and refine contracts over upcoming meetings.

Council discussed the PayByPhone parking contract, noting it is currently operating on a year-to-year basis with a 90-day notice required for termination. It was determined it was too late to terminate or renegotiate the contract this year. Council agreed to revisit the issue at the end of the year, contact the vendor to address usability and fee concerns, and evaluate options before the next renewal period.

Mr. Bryan explained the Village's insurance renewal process, noting the Village insurance agent, Wichert Insurance, shops for carriers annually to provide the various forms of coverage and find the best rates and coverage options for the Village. The Village coverage year ends on June 23. The Village receives its renewal proposal each year sometime between April through early June. Wichert attempts to get the quotes as soon as possible while the insurers wait as long as possible to gather as much claims data as they can before providing the renewal rates.

Short-Term Rentals

Ms. Riggins presented her review of short-term rental compliance, arguing that while regulations were tightened in recent years, significant enforcement issues remain. She pointed out issues with occupancy limits, parking requirements, insurance documentation, and

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required reporting. She noted the only documentation for minimum rental days is the self-reported quarterly short-term rental tax records. She expressed concerns about unregulated parking, inaccurate listings, and inspections. She noted that short-term rentals contribute relatively little revenue compared to long term resident income taxes. She suggested that the Village will benefit from fewer short-term rentals in 2026. She stated there is strong resident sentiment favoring the reduction or elimination of short-term rentals. The discussion broadened to policy direction, with several Councilmembers expressing concern that short-term rentals are difficult to regulate effectively and may be placing an unnecessary burden on the Village administration. Ideas included phasing out non-owner-occupied rentals over time, strengthening enforcement, requiring stricter verification, or considering a full ban. Legal risks and enforcement limitations were acknowledged. Council recognized there is no simple solution. There is a need to balance resident concerns, legal constraints, administrative capacity, and economic impact. While there was general support for prioritizing owner-occupied rentals and possibly reducing non-owner-occupied permits through attrition, questions remain about enforcement feasibility, staffing, and whether new regulations would be effective. The topic was left open for further discussion at the next meeting.

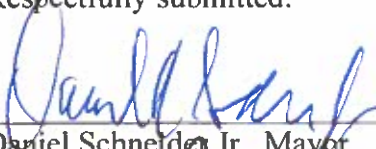
GREAT LAKES TELECOM & ELECTRIC, LLC ENGAGEMENT:

Ms. Frank-Hensley made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Krachinsky to proceed with the updated quote from Great Lakes Telecom in an amount not to exceed \$18,000. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF NECESSARY): None.

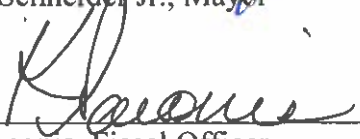
ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Krachinsky made a motion to adjourn the meeting that was seconded by Mr. Slocum. Roll call vote: Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mrs. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Mr. Rosales, yes. The meeting was adjourned at 9:31 PM

Respectfully submitted:



Daniel Schneider Jr., Mayor

4/14/2026
Date



Katie Iaconis, Fiscal Officer

4/14/2026
Date