Record of Proceedings
Regular Council Meeting

Held: Tuesday, October 13, 2026

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

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Daniel Schneider, Jr.	Present	Amy Fank-Hensley	Present
Richard Slocum	Present	Daniel Krachinsky	Present
Jodi Padrutt	Present	Eliud Rosales	Present at 7:02
Mo Riggins	Present		

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor Brad Bryan, Administrative Assistant Faith Dorton, Fiscal Officer Vic Nogalo, Alan Brubaker & David Koontz with Summit County Engineer's Office.

PRESENTATION OF AGENDA AND AMENDMENT OF THE AGENDA: None.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Summit County Engineer's Office on Summit County Surface Water Management District

The Mayor introduced Summit County Engineer Al Brubaker. Engineer Brubaker introduced David Koontz from his office, who supervises the Summit County Surface Water Management District and its stormwater management program. Mr. Brubaker explained the program addresses both EPA stormwater quality requirements and local drainage and flooding problems. The District began with Bath Township and later expanded to include additional townships and communities. Its responsibilities include mapping stormwater systems, monitoring pollution, reviewing grading plans, issuing permits, investigating drainage complaints, and prioritizing stormwater improvement projects. The program also offers residential grants for projects such as rain gardens, rain barrels, and landscaping improvements designed to manage stormwater.

Mr. Brubaker explained how the District's user fees are collected through property tax bills and distributed to support eligible stormwater projects. The fee is approximately $100 per household per year. If Peninsula joins, approximately $54,000 could be collected annually, with roughly $30,000 returned to the Village for approved stormwater improvements. The funds must be used for stormwater management and cannot be diverted to general expenses that are tangential to stormwater issues. The County would assist Peninsula by mapping its drainage infrastructure, developing a comprehensive stormwater improvement plan, responding to drainage complaints, reviewing site plans, issuing grading permits, and overseeing certain construction requirements. Mr. Brubaker explained the District works with the Summit Soil and Water Conservation District on construction inspections and pollution prevention measures.

Mr. Slocum asked whether the Village could create a separate surface water district or increase the fees to help finance major infrastructure projects, including an estimated $2.7 million stormwater project on St. Rt. 303. Mr. Brubaker said Peninsula could establish its own district or request an increase in the District's fees for the Village. An increase beyond the regular County rate would require approval from both the Village Council and County Council. He noted the County can offer advances on future allocations. Mr. Brubaker also explained the Village could adopt the County regulations for riparian setbacks or enact its own regulations. If the County regulations are used, the County would handle variance applications from those standards. If the Village adopts its own regulations, the Village would handle the variance hearings.

Ms. Frank-Hensley noted the County Sewer District does not address stormwater concerns, particularly flooding and water backup issues that can overwhelm sanitary sewer systems and cause sewage to enter buildings. Mr. Brubaker emphasized that reducing flooding would help protect residents, infrastructure, and local waterways. Mr. Bryan asked about EPA reporting and enforcement responsibilities and assistance and what the District would expect from the Village. Mr. Brubaker explained the County would handle most stormwater program requirements, including reporting and employee training, while the Village would remain responsible for the maintenance of its own facilities and court prosecutions of violations within its jurisdiction. The presenters clarified that Peninsula is not currently subject to MS4 requirements, but future EPA rule changes could affect that status. The Mayor thanked Mr. Brubaker and Mr. Koontz for the presentation, noting the information would help the Village to determine whether joining the District would be beneficial. Mr. Brubaker emphasized there is no deadline for making a decision.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

September 22, 2026 Council Meeting Minutes: Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Ms. Riggins to approve the minutes. Roll call vote: Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Ms. Frank-Hensley, yes; Ms. Padrutt, abstain. The minutes were approved.

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:

John Najeway urged Council to prioritize installing crosswalks along St. Rt. 303, citing a recent accident near the Peninsula Coffee House involving a speeding box truck. He expressed concern that delaying improvements until the future road construction project commenced could result in a fatality. He reminded everyone that crosswalks had been discussed by Council previously and encouraged action to improve pedestrian safety. Council members supported revisiting the issue, noting that the estimated cost was under $100,000 and grant funding might be available. Council suggested installing a push-button crosswalk as soon as possible rather than waiting for the Safety Project. Using temporary barriers to guide pedestrians toward designated crossing points and inexpensive crossing flags to increase visibility were also proposed. Mr. Bryan reminded Council that ODOT requires the submission of an engineered crosswalk plan before granting approval to install a crosswalk on a state route. It was noted that crosswalk plans have already been prepared in connection with the Rt. 303 Safety Project. The Mayor stated he would have Ed McCabe contact Tony Burgoyne with OHM to discuss this issue.

Amanda DiBenedetto raised concerns about limited visibility for drivers entering St. Rt. 303 from driveways near downtown due to the planned street parking in connection with the Rt. 303 Project. She also asked why speed-monitoring signs were not positioned farther east to alert drivers sooner. The Mayor explained the Village was collecting speed data near the start of the 25-mph zone rather than in the 40-mph zone. He stated he was working to resolve technical issues preventing data downloads from certain signs. Mr. Slocum acknowledged the visibility concerns and explained the planned parking setbacks would leave space near driveways, while parked vehicles might also provide a barrier against vehicles leaving the roadway. He emphasized the need to preserve the scarce amount of on-street parking on Rt. 303. He noted ongoing concerns about excessive speeding in the area and expressed hope that speed cameras or increased traffic enforcement could help address the problem.

REPORTS

Mayor, Daniel Schneider, Jr.: The Mayor stated he would provide updates on several additional items, including leaf pickup, later in the meeting.

Fiscal Officer, Mr. Nogalo: Mr. Nogalo updated Council on the Village's financial reconciliation and payroll processes, explaining he has supplied Charles Harris & Associates with available bank and credit card statements dating back to 2024. He is working with Huntington Bank to obtain additional records. He reported that approximately $36,000 in credit card charges for the current year have not been entered into the accounting system, contributing to a discrepancy between the bank balances and recorded cash balances as of the end of September. He expressed concern that the Village's average bank balances have declined over the past two years. Mr. Nogalo noted plans to replace the existing Huntington credit card with a rewards-enabled version and explore electronic vendor payments. He also described significant difficulties with the ADP payroll system, including missing shift differentials and complications with overtime and minimum call-in pay, which have caused payroll processing to take as long as 10 hours. Mr. Nogalo recommended considering a more suitable payroll system.

Street Commissioner, Mr. Anderson: Ms. Riggins asked the Mayor for updates on two outstanding matters. First, she inquired about the recently signed road salt contract and whether the parties had begun coordinating as required under the agreement. The Mayor confirmed those discussions were already underway. Second, Ms. Riggins asked about drainage issues related to Lois Unger's property, raising concerns that ongoing regrading work on the neighboring property might worsen existing problems. The Mayor acknowledged the concern and stated the Village would investigate the situation.

Finance Liaison, Mr. Krachinsky:

Mr. Krachinsky noted Council did not receive any updated financial report. Mr. Nogalo discussed the ongoing financial reconciliation process and asked Council what level of financial reporting it would like to receive, offering to provide detailed receipts and expenditures categorized by department and fund. He reiterated that the credit card transactions for the year were missing from the accounting system and committed to providing separate credit card records until those transactions could be properly recorded. He plans to reinstate purchase order requirements for Village purchases, with reasonable exceptions for emergencies and routine incidental expenses, and investigate options for earning interest on excess bank balances through more liquid investment accounts. Councilmembers questioned the decline in Village fund balances from approximately $1.5–$1.7 million in previous years to significantly lower levels and discussed possible causes including the Village Hall capital improvement expenditures and reduced camera ticket revenue. Mr. Nogalo reported that recorded traffic fine revenue increased substantially beginning in 2023 but emphasized that further analysis and reconciliation of historical balances were needed to determine the reason for the declining balance and net camera ticket revenue after contractor and court payments are figured in. Mr. Nogalo was advised the 2023 traffic fine revenue increase was related to the start of the camera ticket program. He agreed to prepare and distribute financial records and reports through September. Council acknowledged that stabilizing payroll processing remained the immediate priority.

Police Department, Chief Rucker: Corporal Pongracz reported on the speed data from the functioning speed sign in the 50-mph zone, covering June through September. He noted the results did not indicate a significant speeding problem based on the average speeds, although some isolated individual vehicles were traveling considerably faster than the limit. He is coordinating with K & K Systems to address the connectivity and data-download issues affecting the other signs. He shared traffic enforcement statistics from Targeting Solutions from April through September, noting that citation numbers were down significantly compared with two years ago. He reported both police cruisers should be fully outfitted within the next six weeks. There were two K-9 related drug arrests in September. The Department is working to ensure these K-9 related activities are properly documented in its records system.

Roads and Public Works: The Mayor reported leaf pickup has begun and will continue until freezing weather conditions make further collections impractical. Regular brush pickup has ended for the year unless a significant storm occurs. Council then discussed the possibility of providing orange crossing flags in buckets for pedestrian safety at crosswalks. John Najeway explained that the flags would improve pedestrian visibility when crossing the road. The issue of whether special permission would be required because Rt. 303 is a state highway was discussed. It was noted that the Village already has marked crosswalks and drivers are required to yield to pedestrians who are in those crosswalks. The Mayor agreed to investigate the proposal and asked John Najeway to send photographs of the crossing-flag system for Council and him to review.

Planning Commission, Ms. Frank-Hensley

Ms. Frank-Hensley reported the Planning Commission met on September 28th and continued reviewing the Zoning Code Land-Use Tables in connection with its update to the Mixed Use Zone regulations. One additional review is planned before presenting the proposed changes to Council. The Commission may recommend extending the current moratorium on development within the Mixed Use district, which expires in mid-December. The Commission also discussed existing zoning regulations related to circuses, fairs, and festivals in connection with the Village's proposed events policy and the need to make sure there are no conflicts between those provisions. Regarding the Zoning Map, the Commission agreed to explore asking the County to update its GIS information and Zoning Map pertaining to the Village rather than paying for a separate mapping service. Ms. McMahon is coordinating with the County GIS Department to schedule a meeting and obtain further information.

The Commission also reviewed the proposed informational letter to residents explaining the upcoming short-term rental advisory ballot issue. Councilmembers expressed differing views on whether the Village should distribute the informational letter, with some supporting sending the voter education letter and others concerned about potential bias and the importance of communicating each member's individual position. Ms. Riggins recommended revisions to align the wording with the ballot and clarify the advisory vote's purpose. The Mayor agreed to review the proposed letter and any revisions provided by Ms. Riggins and consider sending a revised version from the administration incorporating the proposed changes. Resident Jen Krachinsky questioned why the advisory vote was necessary, since this issue has been publicly discussed extensively and Council is aware that there is no public consensus on this issue. Ms. Padrutt explained that an earlier survey conducted in 2024 had shortcomings, and the upcoming ballot would provide a broader opportunity for residents to express their preferences. Council

acknowledged that details such as the treatment of existing rentals would need to be addressed through subsequent Council decisions.

Zoning Officer, Mr. Collins: The Mayor reported Mr. Collins could not attend tonight's meeting and a property maintenance code violation charge has been issued and will be filed with the Stow Court. A request for a Certificate of Appropriateness to refurbish a house within the Historic District is scheduled to be heard at the next Planning Commission Meeting.

Board of Zoning Appeals: Mr. Bryan shared there will be a variance hearing during the next BZA meeting scheduled for October 27 at 6:00 p.m.

Buildings and Grounds, Ms. Frank-Hensley: Ms. Frank-Hensley stated she had nothing to report.

Policies & Procedures Liaison, Mr. Slocum:
Cybersecurity Program: Mr. Slocum reported he is reviewing proposals for system migration and will follow up with vendors to clarify the scope of their quotes. One proposal was eliminated because it required an ongoing service contract. In connection with an assessment of the Police Department's network requirements, it has been determined that the Village will need to separate the Police Department computers from other office computers. The project is expected to cost approximately $20,000–$25,000 annually for Microsoft licenses and additional ongoing security expenses. The Village needs to establish a compliant cloud environment for the Police Department and ensure the Department's email system meets required security standards. Although some existing costs may be offset, the overall expense will increase. Mr. Slocum will consult with the Fiscal Officer to determine available funding. He noted the current system is significantly out of compliance.

Fire Board, Mr. Krachinsky: Mr. Krachinsky reported the Fire Department held a well-attended ceremony recognizing a promotion to Lieutenant, during which two new Firefighters were also sworn in. A separate ceremony to swear in the new Captain is anticipated. The date for that event has not yet been determined. Mr. Krachinsky offered to notify Council when the Captain's swearing-in ceremony is scheduled.

Cemetery Board, Ms. Padrutt: Ms. Padrutt stated there was nothing to report.

JEDD Board, Ms. Riggins: Ms. Riggins stated the Board is in the process of scheduling a meeting.

Wastewater/Stormwater/Water: The Mayor reported the Ohio EPA recently visited the Wastewater Plant site and reviewed the proposed discharge location. The EPA representatives were impressed with Summit County's knowledge of the process and its management of permitting requirements. The project remains on track, and the plans are 98 percent complete.

CVNP and Conservancy, Ms. Padrutt and Ms. Riggins: Nothing to report.

Rt. 303 Safety Project, Mr. Slocum: Council discussed the potential need for a State Infrastructure Development (SID) loan in the approximate amount of $560,000, with a 3% interest rate, to keep the project moving and allow contractors and vendors to be paid. Council agreed that it would be preferable to wait until November, when the results of the OPWC grant application process are expected, before making a final decision. Knowing that the Village received the grant would provide greater confidence in the Village's ability to repay the loan. Council noted that additional information about the loan terms, repayment schedule, deadlines, and grant status is needed to make an informed decision on this issue. The Mayor agreed to follow up with the appropriate contacts and share updates with Council.

Solicitor, Mr. Bryan: Mr. Bryan stated he had nothing additional to report at this time.

LEGISLATION
Ordinance No. 13-2026 (Version 4) (Tabled)
Requested by: Councilperson Padrutt
An Ordinance Establishing Section 311.02 of the Village Code Regarding Outdoor Public Events Policies and Permits (Third Reading)

No action was taken on this Ordinance.

Ordinance No. 20-2026
Requested by: Ms. Padrutt
An Ordinance Amending the Rules of Council (Second Reading)

Mr. Bryan read the legislation by title. It was discussed and clarified that the Administrative Assistant currently prepares the minutes, and the Fiscal Officer remains responsible for signing the approved minutes and legislation. The only in-meeting duty of the Fiscal Officer is calling the roll for attendance and votes. Council considered whether to revise the proposed language but ultimately decided to leave the language unchanged.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:
Solicitor Search Committee: Ms. Padrutt announced the Committee has eight submissions to review.

Discussion as to Whether the Short-Term Rental Ordinance Should Be Reviewed, and If So, Whether the Review Process Should First Be Undertaken by Council or the Planning Commission

Ms. Riggins stated she feels that the short-term rental regulations need to be reviewed regardless of the outcome of the vote. She requested clarification as to whether Council wants to review the short-term rental regulations internally or have that review start with the Planning Commission. Ms. Riggins expressed concern that the Planning Commission has taken several months to review the Mixed Use zoning regulations and has still not completed its work. She emphasized the need to clarify the short-term rental rules, which are difficult to understand and enforce. She suggested reviewing the regulations rule by rule to ensure requirements, occupancy limits, and event restrictions are clearly written. Members noted the regulations remain in effect, so renewal applications and inspections should continue as usual until Council takes formal action. Council discussed forming a subcommittee that might include Councilmembers, Planning

Commission Members, and residents, to review the regulations outside of Regular Council Meetings. No decision on that issue was made because some Councilmembers preferred to wait for the election results before taking any action with respect to the short-term rental ordinance.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Slocum made a motion that was seconded by Mr. Rosales to adjourn the meeting. Roll call vote: Mr. Rosales, yes; Mr. Krachinsky, yes; Mr. Slocum, yes; Ms. Padrutt, yes; Ms. Riggins, yes; Ms. Frank-Hensley. The meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Daniel Schneider Jr., Mayor — 10/27/26 Date

Vic Nogalo, Fiscal Officer — 10/27/26 Date