

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Village of South Amherst
EMERGENCY MEETING AGENDA
July 7, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

The council meeting was called to order by Mayor Scott Jones at 7:00 p.m.

LORD'S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilmember Michele Jeffers	P	Records Clerk Laurie Beran	P
Councilmember Robb Koscho	P		
Councilmember Mark Leshinski	P		
Councilmember Anthony Savage	P		
Councilmember David Troike	P		
Council Pro Tempore Jeanne Maschari	P	(EA – excused absences)	

APPROVAL OF AGENDA July 7, 2026

Councilmember Savage moved to approve the agenda as presented for July 7, 2026. Councilmember Leshinski seconded the motion.

Jeffers x Koscho x Leshinski x Maschari x Savage x Troike x Motion carried.

MAYOR

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County Qualification

Mayor Jones stated that the sole purpose of this meeting is for council to rescind the previously approved motion from the 8th day of June 2026 to enter into discussions regarding the CDBG Urban County Qualification.

Councilmember Maschari moved to rescind the motion that was adopted on the 8th day of June 2026 Council meeting regarding opting-in for the Lorain County Urban Designation. Councilmember Savage seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmember Troike: I previously did vote against this designation of the Urban County qualifications. We have since found even more information, at least I have, just doing a simple Google search. I found a lot of things that they are not telling us. I don't feel that the county has been transparent. They're not telling us everything. They're being very deceitful, and they're trying to sell a product, so they're going to tell us what we want to hear. I think that's what happened that night. They were telling us, "This is going to be great," and it is. I mean, if you're only going to do senior citizen programs, Meals on Wheels, and housing, that's fine. Unfortunately, there's a lot of other stuff in here. One of them is groundwater. Anybody who has a well can declare that as non-potable water for whatever they want to do. We have farms out here, and we have people on West Main, too, that run off wells. They won't be able to do that anymore. They would have to tap into our water system, and then it's going to cost us more money in the end.

Councilmember Maschari: I just wanted to share with the community the reason why I'm rescinding my motion. It is not because I think there's a problem with the program. It's because I think people have misinterpreted things. However, I represent the village residents. I don't know how many of you out there are village residents. I see a lot of familiar faces that I know are village residents, but I've heard a lot of feedback from people who aren't, who don't even live in the village. So, I say we rescind it, and I would suggest that we don't opt-in and let the residents lose what they're going to lose. Currently, there were 1,820 meals served in 2025 to village residents through the Meals on Wheels program. That's really only five families, but there could be more. By us opting-out, because we are a home-rule village, if the county gets its designation anyway, then those residents will lose that benefit. Individual residents also won't be able to apply for Community Block Grants to do home improvements to their homes. Having said that, I've talked to enough residents today, and they feel that they're against it. They don't like it. They don't understand it. When I've asked them, "Tell me something that you don't like about it," they don't even know. All they know is what they read on Facebook. So, hey, you know what? I'm good.

VILLAGE OF SOUTH AMHERST
REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
August 10, 2026

CALL TO ORDER

LORD'S PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

August 10, 2026

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 29, 2026 and July 7, 2026

VISITORS

MAYOR

Key to the Village

Council Project Update

Committee as a Whole

Microsoft Calendar

FISCAL OFFICER

Payment Listing

Financial Reports

June Bank Reconciliation

Mayor's Court Financial Report

County Marcs Loan Request

RECORDS CLERK

Construction Report

2027 Calendar

Village Wide Rummage Sale

BZA Meeting

Shred Event

UTILITY ADMINISTRATOR

Water/Storm

Consumption Report

Engineering update

Streets

Service garage

Public works operator

E Main Trees

Park

Cemetery

Pioneer

DEPARTMENTS

COMMITTEES

Building & Grounds

Update

Village Hall Roof

Police Vehicles

ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 1861-26

(Emergency) Fiscal Officer Rate of Compensation

Ordinance No. 1862-26

(First Reading) Enact Chp. 735 Mobile Food Vehicle

Ordinance No. 1863-26

(First Reading) Repeal & Enact New 1141.03 (e)

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 783-26

(First Reading) ODOT Lighting Maintenance 2027 Project

Resolution No. 784-26

(Emergency) Public Works Operator Rate of Compensation

August 10, 2026

Resolution No. 785-26

(Emergency) OBM Copier Agreement

Resolution No. 786-26

(Emergency) Lorain County MARCS Loan Request

VISITORS

EXECUTIVE SESSION 121.22 (G)(1)

MISCELLANEOUS

Feral Cat Update

ADJOURNMENT

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Village of South Amherst

Councilmember Savage: On the surface, this program seems like it can be very beneficial, not just for South Amherst, but for everybody in Lorain County. It may very well be that, in the future, after listening to everybody in this room, having future meetings, gathering more feedback and input, and having more of the key players involved in this process, including the commissioners and those who would be running the program come back and speak, with ample time for public questions and answers, we may decide that it makes sense. At this time, however, there are too many unanswered questions. There's too much misinformation on the internet. There's also not enough information on the internet. There are a lot of facts that may be misconstrued or maybe aren't misconstrued. I don't feel comfortable with us moving forward with something that has this much uncertainty.

Mayor Jones: Facebook is great for a lot of things, and it can be a really good method of communication. But, as Mr. Savage stated, every single thing that we do in this room matters to everyone in this room, and beyond. The more we can get together and discuss these issues, the better it is for everyone. Absolutely. Also, I did reach out to multiple commissioners. The only one who got back to me was Marty Gallagher. He is interested in coming to the next council meeting. I'm trying to get the other two, but they still haven't returned my calls. I would love for you all to voice your frustrations, concerns, and anything else that you would like to say to these commissioners. That's why, again, this is not really the platform for it. You can ask me all the questions you want, but if I don't have the answers, you're still going to leave the same way you came in. I'd rather have the people who can actually answer those questions here in front of you.

Jeffers x Koscho x Leshinski x Maschari x Savage x Troike x Motion carried.

Councilmember Troike moved to opt-out of the Lorain County Urban Designation. Councilmember Savage seconded the motion.

Discussion: Councilmembers cited that the opt-out letter deadline was July 8th and an additional letter needed to be sent to HUD. The mayor is aware of what steps need to be taken.

Jeffers x Koscho x Leshinski x Maschari x Savage x Troike x Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT Time

Jeffers x Koscho x Leshinski x Maschari x Savage x Troike x Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Fiscal Officer Michelle Henke


Mayor Scott Jones



Village of South Amherst

103 W Main St. South Amherst, OH 44001
mayorjones@southamherst.org
440-986-1061

July 7, 2026

David J. Moore, President

Lorain County Board of County Commissioners
226 Middle Avenue
Elyria, Ohio 44035

SUBJECT: Village of South Amherst's Response — Lorain County CDBG Urban County Qualification, FYs 2027–2029

Dear Commissioner Moore,

On behalf of the Village of South Amherst, this letter serves as our official written response to Lorain County's notification dated May 12, 2026, regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Urban County qualification for Fiscal Years (FYs) 2027–2029.

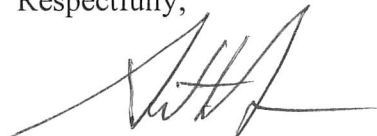
Please be advised that the Village of South Amherst declines participation in the Lorain County CDBG Urban County Program for FYs 2027–2029.

☒ **OPTION B — We CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE** in the Lorain County CDBG Program for FYs 2027–2029.

In addition, the Village requests that Lorain County **disregard the Cooperation Agreement dated June 29, 2026. At its duly held meeting on July 7, 2026, the Village Council voted to rescind its previous motion approving participation in the Urban County Program and subsequently voted to opt out of the program for the FY 2027–2029 qualification period.**

We appreciate the opportunity to participate in the program and thank Lorain County for its continued partnership and assistance. Please contact our office if any additional information or documentation is required regarding this action.

Respectfully,



Scott Jones, Mayor

CC: Garvin Carrington-Matthews
HUD Columbus Field Office, CPD Division