ORDINANCE NO. 25-21 OFFERED BY: SKYLAR SUTTON

AN ORDINANCE CODIFYING THE ORDER AND RULES OF A PUBLIC HEARING.

WHEREAS, the Codified Ordinances of the City of Hudson make reference to, but do not define the phrase "Public Hearing;" and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson has relied on precedent and tradition to facilitate and conduct public hearings at the meetings of the City Council, the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals, the Planning Commission, and the Architectural and Historic Board of Review; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson desires that all individuals who wish to engage and participate in a public hearing have an opportunity to do so; and

WHEREAS, in order to efficiently and fairly conduct city business, it is necessary to provide an order of business and reasonable limitations on discussion during public hearings; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Hudson, Summit County, Ohio, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 206.10 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Hudson be hereby created and shall provide as set forth in the document attached as Exhibit "A," which is fully incorporated herein.

Section 2. That the aforesaid recitals are rendered to be the findings of this Council and are hereby incorporated into this Ordinance.

Section 3. Upon its passage, the Clerk of Council is directed to deliver a copy of this Ordinance to the Board of Zoning and Building Appeals, the Planning Commission, and the Architectural and Historic Board of Review.

Section 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Section 5. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

PASSED:_____ _____
Jeffrey L. Anzevino, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____
Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

I certify that the foregoing Ordinance was duly passed by the Council of said Municipality on _____, 2025.

_____
Aparna Wheeler, Clerk of Council

EXHIBIT "A"

206.10 PUBLIC HEARING

(a) A "Public Hearing" is any matter required by law where advance notice is required and testimony is to be given on a particular topic or application.

(b) All Public Hearings conducted by any public body of the Municipality shall have the following order of business and rules:

(1) (1) Swearing In: Any individual who speaks during a public hearing is required to give an oath or affirmation to testify truthfully. The chair shall provide an opportunity at the beginning of the meeting for individuals to swear in, but may perform additional ones at any point in the hearing as needed.

(2) Introduction: City staff will provide initial introductions of the application or topic, the applicant and any verbal comments related to a written staff report, if one is required or has been prepared.

(3) Initial Applicant Comments: The applicant, if any, will have an opportunity to provide testimony on their application. Under this section of the hearing, comments shall be limited to the applicant, or their legal representation, and shall not exceed 15 minutes.

(4) Initial Questions from the Body: Each member of the body will have an opportunity to ask questions to the applicant or staff. There is no time limit for this discussion, but a member has the right to interrupt a speaker once his or her question has been answered. The chair has the right to close this section of the hearing when he or she believes the discussion is exhausted.

(5) Comments from Individuals With Standing: Each individual with standing will have an opportunity to provide testimony. An individual has "standing" if they were mailed a notice of the public hearing, see Section 1203.01(f)(6). Under this section of the hearing, comments shall be limited to the individual with standing, or their legal representation, and shall not exceed 15 minutes.

(6) Comments from the Public: Each member of the public will have an opportunity to provide testimony on the topic or application. Under this section of the hearing, comments shall be limited to the individual, or their legal representation, and shall not exceed 5 minutes.

(7) Final Questions from the Body: Based on the testimony heard, each member of the body conducting the public hearing will have an opportunity to ask additional questions to any individual who provided testimony or staff. There is no time limit for this discussion, but a member has the right to interrupt a speaker once his or her question has been answered. The chair has the right to close this section when he or she believes the discussion is exhausted.

(8) Final Applicant Comments: The applicant, if any, will have an opportunity to provide final comments on their application. Comments shall be limited to the applicant, or their legal representation, and shall not exceed 30 minutes. The chair has the right to extend this time limit at his or her discretion.

(9) Discussion/Action by the Body: The body may discuss the testimony and evidence received and take action on it. This section may be deferred if the item is scheduled for discussion/action on a future agenda or if the item is to be taken under advisement.

(c) To the extent any administrative or other parliamentary rules of procedure have been adopted by a body of this Municipality, to the extent such provisions conflict with this section, the terms and processes as set forth in this section shall control.

(d) The following shall apply to all individuals making a comment or offering testimony during a Public Hearing:

(1) No person shall address the board or commission until recognized by the chair.

(2) Orderly and respectful behavior shall be exhibited at all times.

(3) A person exhibiting disorderly behavior may be asked by the chair to be seated and refrain from further comment. After a warning from the chair, any person continuing to exhibit disorderly behavior may be removed from the meeting at the chair's direction.