On Tuesday, June 30, 2026, at 6:00 PM, Mayor Joseph Galea opened the Council work session with a word of prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited by those present.

The work session for the Council of the Village of Monroeville was then called to order.

Present at roll call:		
Chris Raftery	and	Joseph Galea, Mayor
Mark Miller		Eunice Collene, Fiscal Officer
Sue Rogers		Jim Barney, Solicitor
Tammy Schachter		Chief Jon Earl, MPD
Andrew Brown		
Jim Ehrman		

Also attending: State Representative Kellie Deeter, HRJFD Chief Curt Stang, Decimal Digital CEO Roshan Shah, Julie Perry, John & Virginia Izzard, Scott Summerlin, Shannon Roberts, Elisa Brown, Ted Caldwell, Sue Smith, Joe & Holly Weilnau, Jill Tangeman, Mindy Gies, Mark Dottore, Thomas Dottore, Lori Kaser, Joseph Jones on behalf of the Sandusky Register, and (illegible).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The mayor asked for Council's approval of the agenda. Ms. Sue Rogers made a motion, seconded by Ms. Chris Raftery, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with no discussion.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION
The mayor opened the meeting and noted that there were more attendees, some of whom had been present at previous meetings. The mayor requested everyone's cooperation as Council discusses information and asked attendees to save their comments until the designated public comment portion of the meeting. While Council is meant to hold these discussions in an open meeting, the mayor was unsure how long it would take, and noted that he and Council cannot meet privately after the meeting to discuss matters. The mayor said that he and Council need the opportunity to say what is on their mind and have a discussion before moving on to public comments.

The mayor gave an update on the current situation. He said that Councilman Andrew Brown suggested creating a frequently asked questions document to share verified information with the village. The mayor pointed out that copies of this document are available in the back of the room, some of which he distributed. He added that it is not yet official with Council and can be updated. Mr. Miller suggested creating a similar document for residents to ask questions of Council. Ms. Eunice Collene reminded the mayor that she had discussed a follow-up form with him and has a draft ready for his review. The mayor said they can go over it at the regular Council meeting in July 2026. Ms. Sue Rogers said that Decimal Digital plans to send something to the residents. The mayor confirmed this and stated that Decimal Digital is expected to hold a town hall in August 2026. Mr. Roshan Shah confirmed that Decimal Digital will notify the residents. The mayor assured that the village will also publicize this information and share it with the media. He confirmed this with Mr. Joseph Jones, who is here on behalf of the Sandusky Register. Ms. Rogers noted that the town hall is scheduled for August 15, 2026.

The mayor mentioned that he and Council are researching firms that can help with zoning and technical support as they continue discussions about data centers. He also said that a Finance Committee meeting needs to be scheduled to review the budget and determine whether funds are available to hire a firm.

The mayor requested that Council share their thoughts on the current situation. Mr. Andrew Brown asked Mr. Jim Barney for an update on the ordinance and resolution set for the November 2026 ballot. Jim responded that he had prepared a preliminary draft to formulate the ballot question. He recently met with Randall Strickler, the assistant prosecuting attorney for the civil division, who suggested that Mr. Barney consult with him. Mr. Barney agreed this was a good idea before Council invests significant time and effort to determine any potential pushback from the prosecutor's office. He sent Mr. Strickler the relevant case law and tried to contact him earlier today but wasn't able to reach him. Mr. Brown asked if Mr. Barney would have this ready for the July regular Council meeting, to which Mr. Barney confirmed. Mr. Brown also asked if the legislation would need three readings for approval. The mayor clarified that it could be passed as emergency legislation, which Mr. Barney confirmed. The mayor added that if special meetings are necessary, they could be scheduled. Mr. Jim Ehrman said that citizens are expressing a need for clarity on what will be on the ballot. Mr. Brown explained that it's an advisory vote, meaning it won't allow citizens to vote yes or no on allowing a data center. Instead, it will provide Council with feedback on whether citizens support a data center, giving them valuable information for future decisions. The mayor was curious about whether hosting a community forum or conducting a public survey would be beneficial. He asked Mr. Barney to check if there would be any costs associated with submitting something to the

Board of Elections, noting that funds might be better utilized in other community areas. Mr. Barney confirmed that the cost pertains to running the election. The cost is divided by the number of issues and candidates, resulting in a specific figure. However, the amount won't be known for some time. The mayor said that this is a regularly scheduled major election, meaning it's not a special election just for the village.

Mr. Mark Miller asked about the status of the zoning ordinance. The mayor said that it will proceed at the July 2026 Council meeting, subject to Council's approval. Mr. Jim Ehrman asked if Council would have the opportunity to review the zoning book before voting. The mayor said yes and asked Ms. Eunice Collene if the book was ready for Council's review. Ms. Collene said that she believed the book had already been distributed to the Council members. Mr. Ehrman said he was uncertain about that. Ms. Collene ensured everyone would receive copies if they hadn't already. Mr. Jim Barney noted that a public hearing for the zoning ordinance is set for July 14, 2026, before the regular Council meeting. He asked if there would be an ordinance available for Council to adopt. The mayor confirmed. Mr. Barney then asked if he should prepare that ordinance, to which the mayor agreed. Mr. Barney explained that with a zoning revision like this, it is typically uncommon to adopt it without three readings or to waive those readings, as it impacts land use and people tend to be protective of their property. Although the new zoning ordinance does not significantly alter it, it serves to modernize it. Mr. Barney raised this point because if Ms. Collene does not have the book today, he believed Council would still have time to review it. The mayor confirmed this and suggested that it will likely be completed in three readings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The mayor requested a motion to allow public comments, limiting each to three minutes. Ms. Chris Raftery proposed the motion, seconded by Ms. Sue Rogers. Motion carried with no discussion. The mayor reminded attendees that comments should be directed to Council and pertain to the data center and/or the moratorium. He asked speakers to raise their hands and state their names.

Mr. Scott Summerlin asked if he could make a point without stating his actual question. The mayor agreed. Mr. Summerlin pointed out that Council rules state that public comments are limited to five minutes, not three. He then asked how Council would prefer him to merge his questions into a single question. The mayor responded that if Mr. Summerlin has multiple questions, he should present them during his allotted comment time. The mayor also suggested that Mr. Summerlin ask his questions at the end if he has more than one.

The mayor asked the Council members about the possibility of organizing a public community forum, suggesting it could take place at the school or a larger location. Ms. Rogers said that it's her opinion that a forum should be postponed until after Decimal Digital's town hall meeting on August 15, 2026. The mayor agreed on this approach.

Ms. Holly Weilnau said that August 15, 2026, falls on a Saturday. She asked the Decimal Digital representatives about the timing of their town hall, noting that many school sporting events occur during the day. Max Upton, a representative from Decimal Digital, confirmed that the town hall is set for August 15, 2026, at the Monroeville American Legion, running from 12 noon to 6 PM. The event will resemble a science fair, with each professional having a booth covering various topics such as water usage, noise, and economics. Discussions from the May 7, 2026, work session will be divided, and a representative will be available for each topic. There will be no formal presentation, and attendees can come and go as they please.

Ms. Julie Perry shared her worries for the Village of Monroeville. She asked about how to provide more information to the public. She stated she had looked at many different social media websites. She pointed out that many people are always asking about what is happening, yet they remain uninformed. It would be helpful for Council to share updates so that everyone in the village is aware of what is going on. Ms. Raftery stated that the discussion tonight is a positive beginning. The mayor agreed with Ms. Perry and said the village will find a way to make this information available online.

Mr. John Izzard inquired whether a handout like tonight's could be shared with the public before meetings take place. The mayor agreed, stating that the document he shared earlier will be regularly updated.

Mr. Summerlin stated that he lives in Monroeville and is speaking as a resident, not as a member of the BZA (Board of Zoning Appeals). He expressed concerns about the ordinances. He asked how Council would enforce an ordinance that mandates any entity coming to Monroeville, whether it's bitcoin or another type, to utilize the best available technology for their operations. Additionally, Mr. Summerlin raised concerns about the data center's location near the athletic track and the school, as well as the number of generators needed for cooling. He asked how long the generators would operate, how many would be used, and whether there would be designated test and run times for them. He said it's important to have

ordinances that safeguard Monroeville, regardless of the company or industry that arrives. He felt things are unfair for the village and the Planning Commission, as they are part of a quasi-judicial committee and cannot publicly respond for or against this issue. While he remains impartial, he noted that when he engages with representatives who promise to return for further discussions but do not, it raises doubts about their reliability. He urged Council to ensure that the ordinances they implement offer more protection for the community than what he has observed in other areas. The mayor agreed, stating that nothing should be less-than, and everything should be state-of-the-art, and he hopes to build on that.

An attendee stated that if this issue goes to a vote and the community opposes it, he expects Council to also reject it. They should align with the community's wishes. The mayor responded that Council must consider the community's desires, but as elected officials, they also need to exercise their judgment. The attendee expressed frustration that he didn't have a say when a restaurant was removed from the village, even though he wanted it to stay. He believes this matter is larger than just a restaurant and will impact the environment and living conditions. The community should have the right to vote on this issue. If the community is against it, Council should feel obligated to oppose it and do everything possible to prevent it from happening. The mayor acknowledged his concerns. The attendee then asked if the mayor agreed with him. The mayor replied that he understands the point being made, but he does not fully share that view. Council members are elected to make decisions, and not every decision requires a public vote; this is merely advisory.

Ms. Rogers stated that many people have shared their views, but most of them do not participate in voting. She has received numerous negative comments, yet there are also positive ones, such as those from Mr. Greg Schaefer. The data center proposal promises funding for schools and road improvements. Additionally, the team from Decimal Digital has presented their advanced technology aimed at addressing community issues. Mr. Ted Caldwell pointed out that if data centers were truly beneficial and generating significant revenue, the Decimal Digital representatives would have them in their own communities. Another participant noted that while they do generate income, they are harmful to the environment.

Ms. Mindy Gies said that she has lived in Monroeville for fifty-four years. Her husband had been in touch with Mr. Roshan Shah, the CEO of Decimal Digital, about using part of the land for the proposed data center. Ms. Gies stated that Mr. Shah received a lot of information from local farmers but then stopped communicating with her husband. She expressed distrust towards both him and Mayor Joseph Galea. Ms. Gies addressed the mayor, recalling that during the work session on May 7, 2026, he told attendees he had visited the bitcoin mining site at Industrial Parkway that morning at 7 am, with his vehicle windows down, and claimed he heard no noise from the containers, which she does not believe. She pointed out that while the mayor said he heard no noise, she has experienced it herself. After visiting the bitcoin mining site today, she noted that the noise level has decreased. She reiterated her trust issues regarding the situation. Ms. Gies shared that her parents were business owners in Monroeville who contributed to the community, and she does not see how a data center would benefit the village. The mayor responded, wanting to clarify his earlier statement from the May 7, 2026 work session. He explained that when he visited the bitcoin mining site, he couldn't hear the containers with his windows up, but could hear them when he rolled the windows down. Ms. Gies said she does not recall him saying it that way. The mayor insisted that was what he said, as that was his impression. He confirmed he is not disputing the noise.

Mr. Roshan Shah, CEO of Decimal Digital, apologized to Ms. Gies for the mix-up regarding discussions with her husband. He explained that he and his team had been in contact with multiple farmers. Together with his partners, Henry and Praveen, they met several farmers, including some from the village. He is not sure who Ms. Gies' husband is, but he confirmed that Decimal Digital has a deal with a farmer for soybean farming on the land they bought. Ms. Gies mentioned that her husband is not in the village. Mr. Shah stated that he remembered that, based on his discussion with her husband, terms were proposed that required Decimal Digital to pay a certain amount if something occurred. He doesn't remember the exact terms but recalls that they were somewhat challenging for Decimal Digital to accept. Mr. Shah spoke about the major difference between the current operations at the Bitcoin mining site, which is very loud, and an AI data center, which would be silent. He encouraged everyone to visit an AI data center. He explained the difference between GPUs and ASICs, noting that ASICs are used at Bitcoin mining sites, while GPUs, like the new Blackwell series from NVIDIA, are silent during processing. He stated that comparing the two is not a fair assessment. As Mr. Upton mentioned earlier, Decimal Digital will be ready to answer questions at the town hall on August 15, 2026.

Mr. Scott Summerlin addressed Mr. Shah. He said that after a prior meeting, Mr. Shah was still present thirty minutes after Mr. Summerlin had sat down and waited for him, yet Mr. Shah had not returned to discuss Mr. Summerlin's concerns. Mr. Shah explained that he was with Mr. Upton, Mr. Cripple, and Ms. Alexander, all of whom he is paying thousands of dollars per hour. They were outside having a group strategy discussion while Mr. Summerlin was getting into a white SUV. Mr. Shah stated he called out Mr.

Summerlin's name three times, but Mr. Summerlin did not respond. He noticed someone in Mr. Summerlin's vehicle lighting a cigarette and called out again, but was ignored. At that point, he assumed Mr. Summerlin did not wish to continue the conversation. Since then, he tried to contact Mr. Summerlin twice, provided his email address, and requested that Mr. Summerlin reach out to continue their discussion. Mr. Summerlin asked when Mr. Shah had emailed him. Ms. Roberts, who was with Mr. Summerlin, informed Mr. Shah that Mr. Summerlin had been hospitalized for several weeks and had just been released. Mr. Shah expressed his hope that Mr. Summerlin is well, but he wanted to have a conversation without any games. He also mentioned that Decimal Digital is ready to answer any questions Mr. Summerlin may have.

Ms. Julie Perry asked about Decimal Digital's Project Eagle Ridge website. She mentioned that she had left comments on that page and felt the responses to her questions were unprofessional. She said that Decimal Digital's representatives should be mindful of their interactions, as she took their comments personally. They seemed to imply they would take action against her for using the term "power plant." She noted that before using that term, they had agreed with some of her points. She felt they targeted her for saying that word. Mr. Shah said he does not manage Decimal Digital's social media, so he was unsure which comment Ms. Perry was referring to. Ms. Perry suggested that Mr. Shah consult with his team to prevent further issues. She described whoever is sharing information on the Project Eagle Ridge website as shady and rude. Ms. Perry said that the village is currently unstable due to these matters. She does not want the data center to be established here. She said Council must ensure the community has a voice and not allow Decimal Digital to post questionable responses online. Ms. Perry is advocating for the residents. She believes that Decimal Digital representatives will leave the village once their data center is built. Mr. Shah said that he thinks Ms. Perry is being dishonest, and when she makes emotional and personal accusations, claiming they are shady and that residents oppose them, he doubts she will appreciate the response she receives. He mentioned that she does not know him, but he is open to having a conversation. He believes she is not making progress by criticizing village Council members who are present and working for the community. The mayor requested to move on from this discussion.

Ms. Shannon Roberts asked if it would be feasible to include an informational letter to the residents and attach it to the monthly utility bill. The mayor said that is possible.

Ms. Virginia Izzard said that it seems like this is already decided, regardless of the residents' opinions. She asked if it's possible to relocate the data center further away from the village and whether the residents have any input. The mayor replied that he is unsure about Council's authority in directing Decimal Digital on where to establish their data center. Ms. Izzard pointed out that there is plenty of land available from farmers. The mayor responded that he did not know about any offers made to farmers for land purchases.

Mr. Jim Ehrman thanked everyone for their feedback, and said that their opinions matter, which is why they are gathered here tonight. The Council is present to represent the community. Mr. Ehrman clarified to Mr. Shah that the only point of reference residents have for the data center is the bitcoin mining operation. That was all he knew when he initially joined the community. The citizens' voices are important, and if Council is unaware of issues, they cannot address them.

Mr. Andrew Brown stated that he was the Council member advocating for an advisory question to the November ballot. However, if the data center comes to fruition, Council must hold work sessions, organize their plans, and establish zoning regulations.

Ms. Holly Weilnau said that she attended the Planning Commission meeting earlier this month, where the legal counsel for Decimal Digital discussed an overlay zoning district. She asked Mr. Jim Barney about the difference between the overlay district and other options, or if there are specific zoning rules for data centers. Mr. Barney responded that he had been looking into overlay districts and had spoken with a few individuals experienced with them. He explained that they are essentially the same. It doesn't matter if a conditional use permit is needed in an industrially zoned area or if an overlay district is created for a data center in such an area. Ms. Weilnau then asked if the permit process would be the same. Mr. Barney clarified that while the permit process would differ slightly, the outcome would remain the same. According to the zoning book, obtaining a conditional use permit requires submitting a site plan. The two approaches are similar, but the methods to achieve them are different. Ms. Weilnau said that Decimal Digital already owns land, but she believes citizens should still have input on zoning issues. Mr. Brown noted that he had seen some areas implement a combination of an overlay district and special use. Ms. Weilnau asked if this was the reason the village is seeking further legal advice on the issue, to which the mayor confirmed.

Mr. Scott Summerlin asked Council if he could ask Mr. Barney a question. Mr. Barney then asked Mr. Summerlin if the question was related to the BZA, as he had mentioned before the meeting. Mr.

Summerlin replied that he wanted to know if his resignation from the BZA, effective immediately, would be accepted. Mr. Summerlin asked the mayor if he would accept his resignation from the BZA. Mr. Summerlin feels he needs to resign because he cannot express his opinion while serving on a quasi-judicial committee. He requested the mayor to accept his immediate resignation. Mr. Barney responded that Council cannot take any official action during a work session. Mr. Summerlin can submit a resignation letter, which Council can address at the next regular meeting. Mr. Summerlin said that he would no longer be on the BZA by then, so his current comments would be irrelevant. He also wanted to address Mr. Shah. Mr. Summerlin stated that after the last meeting, Mr. Shah had his back turned to him the entire time they were outside the building. He spoke with the mayor and Council for twenty minutes in the Council Chambers, then talked in the hallway for another ten minutes, and finally went outside to speak with a few others for ten minutes. Mr. Shah was facing away from Mr. Summerlin and was making comments to others. Mr. Summerlin accused Mr. Shah of lying, stating this was the second time he had been dishonest. He mentioned that Mr. Shah had previously told him he managed Decimal Digital's social media accounts but had to step away due to frustration and inappropriate responses. Mr. Summerlin also claimed that what Mr. Shah told Ms. Perry earlier was false, marking it as a third lie. He said that he does not believe Mr. Shah's statements. Mr. Summerlin wanted to give Mr. Shah the benefit of the doubt for the community's sake, as he had served for over ten years as a BZA member. Mr. Summerlin said that he hoped that Mr. Shah would not be able to establish a data center in Monroeville, as he has doubts about Mr. Shah's credibility.

Mr. Joe Weilnau asked if he could pose a question to Mr. Shah. The mayor said he preferred that attendees refrain from asking each other questions and instead direct their inquiries to Council. After the meeting, Mr. Shah said he would provide Mr. Weilnau with his cell phone number.

Ms. Susan Smith asked whether Decimal Digital is also known as Decimal Digital Currency. Mr. Shah confirmed. Ms. Smith asked (inaudible), to which Mr. Shah replied no. She further questioned if Decimal Digital had any other facilities that are fully operational and at capacity anywhere in the country. Mr. Shah answered no again. Ms. Smith wanted to know how the community residents could learn about Decimal Digital’s plans for development, how their systems function, and access the engineering prints to comprehend the closed-loop system, ventilation, and cooling systems. Upon researching Decimal Digital online and visiting the auditor’s website, she discovered an address at 32 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey, which turned out to be a hair salon. Ms. Smith mentioned that during her research on Decimal Digital, she checked the auditor’s website, found the address, and also looked at the Secretary of State’s website. All she found was a statutory agent, an attorney, located in an unidentified building in Columbus, Ohio. She expressed concern about how residents could trust Decimal Digital when their information appears questionable. Additionally, she raised questions about the EMF (electromagnetic field) output from their proposed facility. Ms. Smith asked how residents are expected to investigate and prepare the right questions for the town hall meeting in August to become informed. Mr. Shah said that the New Jersey location has a hair salon on the ground floor and Decimal Digital’s corporate offices are located upstairs in Suite 2 on the second floor. He stated that Decimal Digital has a highly qualified team assisting them, and he cannot claim to be an expert on all the topics Ms. Smith raised. During the Council work session on May 7, 2026, Decimal Digital introduced Kevin Noble, a water expert from Ohio. Mr. Noble is scheduled to be at the town hall on August 15, 2026. Additionally, they have attorney Jill Tangeman and Gloria, who were part of the team that supported META, Amazon, and Google. They work at Ohio's largest law firm specializing in data center projects. Mr. Shah is not well-versed in zoning and permitting for data centers and relies on his team for guidance. Some of Ms. Smith’s questions will remain unanswered until the project progresses further. Currently, the project is in its early stages and is not advancing yet. Certain engineering details are still unclear at this point. They have not reached the stage of investing in advanced mechanical engineering. Residents will have a chance to consult with experts at the town hall in August. Mr. Shah encouraged Ms. Smith to check out Decimal Digital’s project website and review the FAQ section, which is regularly updated with answers to ongoing questions.

Mr. Miller advised the mayor that attendees should have the opportunity to ask Mr. Shah questions if they wish. Council is holding these meetings to ensure everyone is better informed. The mayor agreed to let Mr. Weilnau pose a question to Mr. Shah. Mr. Weilnau asked what prevents a data center from gathering federal information, which could lead to security issues and involve Homeland Security. Mr. Shah said he has seen many posts on Facebook claiming that Decimal Digital is working with the federal government to install surveillance equipment. He clarified that this is not the intention of Decimal Digital, but he is uncertain about who the data center's tenant will be. It is expected to be leased to an off-taker, similar to any real estate project. Decimal Digital aims to partner with a tech company like META, Amazon, or Google. Since the process began, the market has rapidly evolved, and 100 megawatts would attract a larger player. Decimal Digital plans to transition from leasing space to teams working on large language models and imprints. A well-known company will likely lease the space, and it will not be Homeland Security or any surveillance firm. One of Decimal Digital's attorneys stated that the government primarily

contracts with hyperscale data centers for various surveying needs. Major companies like META, Google, and Amazon host different federal departments, including the IRS and defense records. Data centers are responsible for hosting online systems that store medical records. Considering the size of this site and its power capacity, the area could be leased for online record hosting and cloud services. She could not rule out the possibility of the federal government being a customer or client.

Mr. Andrew Brown asked about the earlier comment regarding EMF and whether it was covered in the email that was mentioned. Mr. Max Upton from Decimal Digital confirmed. He stated that, based on peer-reviewed studies, they had records showing the impact of data centers on property values. The findings indicated that data centers do not necessarily influence property values. He also noted that someone had expressed concern earlier in the meeting about their farming property value potentially doubling. The commercial/agricultural use value depends on stock prices, yields, and other factors. This was updated in 2024, leading to an increase in property tax bills for farmers. This increase was based on calculations that affect farm values, not on whether a farm or the neighboring farm was sold to a data center, which would not cause another farm in the area to see higher property taxes. Regarding the increase in data centers, if you look at the AI usage chart since the public release of ChatGPT, the growth in AI usage resembles a hockey stick and shows the increase in computing capacity. This explains the increasing number of data centers. Mr. Upton said he also witnessed Mr. Shah attempting to speak with Mr. Summerlin after the last meeting and confirmed that Mr. Shah had called Mr. Summerlin multiple times. Mr. Summerlin interrupted, claiming this was untrue. Mr. Shah thanked Mr. Brown for his questions.

The mayor brought up the Council's discussion regarding the ongoing bitcoin mining operation at the Industrial Park. He said that there was an update from Mr. Mark Dottore of Dottore Companies, who has been appointed as the receiver for Gray Matter. The mayor asked Council for a motion to enter into executive session due to pending or imminent court action. Ms. Chris Raftery made that motion, seconded by Ms. Sue Rogers. Motion carried with no discussion. The regular Council meeting adjourned to executive session at 7:03 pm, which was held in the conference room of the MMC (Monroeville Municipal Complex), and reconvened on record, in Council Chambers, at 7:53 pm.

The mayor shifted the discussion to closing remarks from Mr. Mark Dottore. Mr. Dottore said that he knows the Monroeville area well and resides in Cleveland, Ohio. He is the court-appointed receiver for the bitcoin mining operation. He invited anyone to meet with him after the Council meeting to explain the role of a receiver. He acknowledged the noise problem in the Industrial Park and has hired a sound expert, with a report expected later this week or early next week. Mr. Dottore stated that his company is trying to follow the noise ordinance, but noted that Monroeville lacks a formal noise ordinance. He expressed his desire to collaborate on whatever the noise regulations may be and to resolve the issues. Recently, one of the bitcoin containers caught fire, creating an eyesore. Mr. Dottore has had fire investigators at the site, and the situation should be fixed soon. They will tackle the noise issue, but their budget is limited. His company became involved when the previous owners were in charge. Those owners were criminals who exploited the village and residents in Youngstown, Ohio. They are no longer involved, and Mr. Dottore has been working with the mayor and the village to prevent a recurrence. Mr. Dottore said that Mr. Shah and his team are reputable. Mr. Ted Caldwell asked who hired Mr. Dottore and who is funding him. Mr. Dottore explained that he is compensated from the recovery funds, meaning he gets paid from what is recovered. Mr. Caldwell then asked if Mr. Dottore works for the village. Mr. Dottore stated that he works for Judge Conway, who approves his fees and business decisions. When the property is sold, Mr. Dottore must file a motion indicating the buyer, followed by an objection period. It is then determined if the property can be sold to the buyer. Mr. Dottore places a fee bill on the property, and Judge Conway determines whether the fee is reasonable. If not, Judge Conway will reduce the fees to the appropriate amount. Mr. Dottore knows the towns in Ohio well, having served as the lottery chairman for ten years. Ms. Weilnau asked if Decimal Digital is working for him, to which Mr. Dottore replied that they are the tenant in the court case. Mr. Summerlin said that Decimal Digital previously said they wanted to resolve the noise issue but were unable to due to the receivership. Mr. Dottore confirmed this and questioned why they would do so without certainty of ownership. Mr. Summerlin asked when the situation could be addressed for businesses in the Industrial Park and if there was a timeline. Mr. Dottore responded that whoever he sells to would be responsible, unless unexpected funds appear. He noted that he inherited the site without a permit and that Mayor Galea has been pressuring him to obtain a conditional use permit and resolve the noise issue. Mr. Dottore is working quickly to address these matters. The bid document for potential buyers will include criteria that the sound must comply with village ordinances and any other requirements. The existing noise ordinance does not cover this specific situation. Mr. Dottore expects to have a decibel report ready by the next regular Council meeting. Mr. Summerlin asked if Mr. Dottore knew when the issue would be resolved. Mr. Dottore said no. Ms. Elisa Brown asked if the sound study is conducted over several days or if it depends on the weather. Mr. Dottore stated that the report will be accessible to anyone interested, and it will include suggestions for noise reduction. An attendee asked Mr. Dottore about whether the previous owner owed money for the power

bill. Mr. Dottore clarified that it was not the previous owner but the village that was in debt for the power bill, and it wasn't the village's fault. Several attendees asked who was responsible. Mr. Dottore explained that the village took on this client, who initially paid but then stopped, leading to debts owed to First Energy as well. This is why the prior owner avoided their responsibilities to First Energy. No one realized that these individuals were deceiving them. The village did not encourage three former criminals to take money from them; they were legitimate when they first arrived. One of them is very wealthy. Mr. Caldwell asked if the village had given them a contract, to which Mr. Dottore responded that he was unsure. Mr. Caldwell believed they had a contract. Mr. Dottore confirmed they were purchasing power from the village. Mr. Caldwell noted that the village had provided them a one-year contract, but residents can't go a year without paying their electric bill. Mr. Dottore added that First Energy allowed them to delay payment longer than the village did. Another attendee said that this is why there is confusion, as they had been informed that the previous owners were buying power from the village. Mr. Dottore confirmed that they were indeed purchasing power from the village. The attendee then asked how such a large bill could accumulate. Mr. Dottore explained that it only takes one to two months to reach that level of billing. The attendee said he didn't know now, noting that over one million dollars is owed. Mr. Dottore clarified that the power expenses for the site exceed two hundred fifty thousand dollars each month, and in some months, it can be as much as four hundred thousand dollars. Mr. Caldwell added that if residents do not pay their bills by the tenth of each month, they incur a late fee, and failure to pay can lead to power disconnection. Another attendee pointed out that there are also reconnection fees. Mr. Summerlin shared that before researching these facilities, he was unaware of the power consumption required to operate them. His confusion was in regard to how the bill increased. He now understands that the village is not to blame and wants to see the noise issue resolved. Mr. Dottore said that Ohio is an excellent place for operations due to its abundant power supply. He expressed his hope that everything should be left in good condition. He said that a property tax issue will be on the ballot, which he believes will pass and could cause chaos. This could serve as a temporary solution for the village. If the village does not want a data center, they should refrain from approving it. An attendee asked if there is any documentation proving that Decimal Digital has first rights to the bitcoin mining site. Mr. Dottore stated that he cannot answer that question, as he is merely the receiver. Another attendee asked whether, if Decimal Digital comes to the village, there is a way to prevent a similar situation from occurring or if there is an insurance policy available. Mr. Dottore advised that anyone interested in purchasing should seek input from the mayor and council to ensure everything functions smoothly. No one should aim to be a bad neighbor. Mr. Barney explained that two topics are being discussed. Mr. Dottore's job is to recover funds for the crypto site to ensure that Gray Matter's creditors are compensated. Additionally, Decimal Digital owns land that could be used for a data center. These are two different matters. When asking if a data center would cause similar issues in the future, that question remains unanswered since the village has not experienced that process before. However, the crypto mining site will not encounter the same problems again, and the contract will be significantly different. A new Electric Service Agreement (ESA) will need to be established, and it will have a different structure. Mr. Barney expressed the importance of keeping these issues separate. Mr. Shah said that Mr. Dottore is referring to the crypto-mining site. The ESA for the data center will include various features and safeguards to protect the village from risks similar to those posed by Gray Matter. Mr. Barney agreed. Mr. Dottore noted that no one anticipated the actions taken by Gray Matter. Mr. Shah said that Gray Matter was skilled con artists operating under false identities. The village is not at fault, nor is Decimal Digital, as they were also misled. Mr. Dottore added that the same scheme occurred in Pennsylvania. Mr. Shah pointed out that Gray Matter sold equipment they did not own while on the run from their other schemes. Mr. Dottore said he was willing to participate in future Council meetings. Ms. Brown asked about the timeline for putting the crypto mining site on the market. Mr. Dottore responded that it is expected to be listed within six months, and the process will involve bidding.

Delores, another lawyer for Decimal Digital in the receivership case, expressed her disappointment that the Decimal Digital team was not included in the executive session of tonight's meeting. She said Decimal Digital believes they have worked with Council and shown their dedication to the community. Eventually, Mr. Dottore will no longer be involved, but Decimal Digital plans to remain in the village and operate transparently to work with the community. She recognizes that the village was taken advantage of by Gray Matter, and Decimal Digital has taken on the responsibility of the forward purchase agreement. Decimal Digital wishes to participate in decision-making, so it is disappointing that they were excluded from tonight's executive session discussion. Mr. Jim Barney noted that in litigation, not all parties are aligned at the same time. Currently, the village and Decimal Digital do not share the same position. Allowing Decimal Digital to join the executive session to discuss the lawsuit would have been completely inappropriate. Mr. Barney informed Council that Delores reached out to him earlier this evening, and he told her it would be unsuitable for Decimal Digital to attend the executive session. Mr. Shah said he takes offense to Mr. Barney's statement that Decimal Digital is not aligned with the village. Mr. Barney responded that he and the village have communicated with Decimal Digital, and both sides understand each other's positions. He reiterated that it would have been inappropriate for Decimal Digital to participate in tonight's executive session. Delores stated that Decimal Digital has made significant efforts

to align with the village, but the village has taken a stance on one specific aspect of the litigation that is against Decimal Digital, and they still wish to collaborate and align with the village.

Mr. Summerlin thanked the mayor and Council for maintaining transparency and for representing the community.

ADJOURNMENT
There being no other business to come before them, the Mayor asked Council for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mark Miller made that motion, seconded by Ms. Sue Rogers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 pm.

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Eunice A. Collene, Fiscal Officer

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Joseph Galea, Mayor

The minutes of this meeting were recorded by Administrative Specialist Heather Alicea. Fiscal Officer Eunice A. Collene examined them for both form and content, subsequently approving them as transcribed.

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