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SUMMIT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

ORDINANCE NO. 99-004

SPONSOR Mrs. Zurz and Mr. Gallagher

DATE March 15, 1999

AN AMENDED ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 164A OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE COUNTY OF SUMMIT, PORT AUTHORITY, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, Chapter 164A of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, Ohio, establishes a Port Authority to be known as the Summit County Port Authority; and

WHEREAS, Council would like to provide for additional procedures and duties for the Summit County Port Authority; now

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED the Council of the County of Summit, State of Ohio, that:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 164A of the Codified Ordinances of the County of Summit, is hereby amended to read as follows:

164A PORT AUTHORITY

164A.01 CREATION

A port authority to be known as the "Summit County Port Authority" (the "Port Authority") is hereby created.

164A.02 POWERS AND JURISDICTION

The Port Authority shall have territorial limits co-terminus with and including all of the territory within the boundaries of Summit County as they now or hereafter exist, and, in addition, if the Port Authority acquires ownership of or leases one or more railroad lines, the territorial limits of the Port Authority shall automatically be extended to include the territory on which such railroad line or lines, terminals and related facilities are located, if and to the extent such railroad rights of way and other related facilities extend outside the boundaries of Summit County. The Port Authority shall be a body corporate and politic which may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and except as its powers are limited in this Chapter, has the powers and jurisdictions now or hereafter given to it by statute, including, but not limited to the powers set forth in Ohio R.C. 4582.31, the exercise of those powers

in cooperation and pursuant to agreements with other port authorities, counties, and other political subdivisions, the State of Ohio and its departments and agencies, and any joint office of economic development created pursuant to Ohio R.C. 307.07. The County may, from time to time, by subsequent ordinance, expand or restrict the permitted scope of the Port Authority powers. No new restriction can impair any then current Port Authority contracts. The exercise of those powers and jurisdiction by the Port Authority shall be deemed to be essential governmental functions of the State of Ohio.

164A.03 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Port Authority shall be governed by a seven member board of Directors, each of whom shall serve for a term of three years. The Board members serving prior to the adoption of this ordinance with terms expiring 12/31/99, 12/31/01, and 12/31/02, shall serve through those periods. The additional four members shall be appointed to staggered initial terms of two years terms for two members and one year terms for two members with the persons initially appointed to the two year terms serving through 12/31/00 and the persons initially appointed to the one year terms serving through 12/31/99. All of the members of the Board of Directors shall be appointed by the County Executive, and approved by County Council in accordance with the procedure provided by the Summit County Charter. Board members shall be appointed from a variety of professions and disciplines, such as Labor, Engineering, Insurance, Legal, Financial, Transportation, Real Estate, and Planning. Upon the resignation or removal of a member of the Board or the expiration of a member's term office, a new member of the Board shall be appointed in the same manner by the County Executive and approved by County Council. One member of the Board shall be appointed from a list of eligible candidates recommended to the County by Metro RTA. No member shall serve more than four consecutive terms, nor shall any member hold office as an elected Summit County official, be employed by Summit County nor shall they be appointed to any other Board or Commission by the County Executive.

The Port Authority board, may with the consent of the Executive and the approval of County Council, request an increase in the total size of the board to nine or eleven members.

164A.04 ADVISORY COMMITTEE

There is hereby designated a committee, designated the "Advisory Committee to the Port Authority", which shall consist of the Summit County Executive, President of County Council, Summit County Engineer, Summit County Auditor and the General Manager of RTA Authority. Such committee shall carry out such review and analysis concerning railroad and other transportation systems activities, and make such recommendations to the Board of the Port Authority, as are in the best interest of carrying out the objectives of the Port Authority, the County, Metro RTA and the political subdivisions in the County,

with respect to railroad and other transportation systems. The Board in making its determinations shall take such recommendations of the committee into account. The Executive Director of the Department of Development, the staff members of such department, and other County Officials and staff as appropriate for the purpose, are hereby authorized to provide staff support from time to time as needed to the Board and the Committee.

164A.05 TERRITORIAL LIMITS EXPANDED

The territorial limits of the Port Authority may be expanded from time to time in the manner provided by statute.

164A.06 DISSOLUTION

Subject to compliance with or assumption and satisfaction of the applicable requirements (if any) of any outstanding notes, bonds, contracts, or other obligations of the Port Authority, the Port Authority may be dissolved at any time upon enactment of an ordinance by the Council of the County; provided that upon dissolution, any real or personal property or combination thereof which has been received from or made available by the County shall be returned to the County. In the event of the dissolution, and after paying all expenses, debts and costs of the Port Authority, and subject to such rights of reversion or other property interests (if any) held by Metro RTA or the United States of America in railroad rights of way or related property interests, any balance remaining in the Port Authority's funds and any remaining real or personal property belonging to the Port Authority shall be distributed to the County.

164A.07 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING; NOTICE AND PLAN WITH FUTURE DOWER RESTRICTION

The Clerk of Council, after consultation with the County Executive, shall give written notice of the time and place of the organizational meeting of the Board of Directors to the members of the Board at least five days prior to the meeting.

The Clerk Council shall also give public notice of the time, place and purpose of the organizational meeting of the Board to the news media at least twenty-four hours prior to the meeting. The Board at such organizational meeting shall, pursuant to Ohio R.C. 4582.27, elect one of its members as chairman, another as vice-chairman and shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the Board. The Board shall prepare, or cause to be prepared, a plan for the future development, construction and improvement of the Port Authority pursuant to the provisions of Ohio R.C. 4582.32, but consistent with the provisions of this chapter relating to the restriction of the Port Authority's power to railroad and other transportation systems.

164A.08 BOARD OF DIRECTORS QUALIFICATIONS

Each member of the Board of Directors shall be a qualified elector of, or have had a place of business or place of employment in, one or more of the political subdivisions within the area of the jurisdiction of the Port Authority as set forth herein for a period of at least three years prior the date of this section and shall remain such during the duration of his or her term.

164A.09 REMOVAL OF BOARD MEMBER.

Any member of the Board of Directors may be removed by the County Executive, with confirmation of County Council, for misfeasance, nonfeasance or malfeasance in of f ice and/or for a member's being absent from five regular meetings of the Board of Director's during any one calendar year.

164A.10 PERSONNEL

With the exception of the position of Executive Director of the Port Authority, all Port Authority hirings, dismissals, promotions, reductions, classifications, reclassification, disciplinary action, and other personnel actions shall comply with the Summit County Codified Ordinances and the rules of the County Human Resource Commission as each exist and as each may be amended in the future. The Summit County Port Authority shall be subject to the Summit County's Classification and Compensation Plan as it exists and may be amended in the future.

164A.11 BUDGET APPROVAL

A copy of annual budgets adopted by the Port Authority Board of Directors shall be filed with the Clerk of Council and the County Auditor each year no later than thirty (30) days after they have been adopted.

164A.12. CHIEF FISCAL OFFICER; FINANCES

The Summit County Auditor shall be the Chief Fiscal Officer for the Port Authority. As such, the Auditor shall have authority to exercise over the Port Authority all the powers and authority vested in the County Auditor by Ohio Revised Code Chapter 5705, the Summit County Charter, and the Summit County Codified ordinances as each exists or may be amended in the future.

164A.13 COUNTY TREASURER; CUSTODY, INVESTMENT OF FUNDS

The County Treasurer shall have jurisdiction over the Port Authority funds and shall exercise over the Port Authority all powers to receive, maintain and invest funds which the Ohio Revised Code, Summit County Charter and Codified Ordinances of Summit County currently vest in the County Treasurer with respect to other County departments, offices and agencies or may vest in the future, unless the Treasurer's powers over the Port Authority and its funds are altered by ordinance of Council.

The County Treasurer shall establish a separate interest bearing account for the investment of the Port Authority's funds. All interest accruing on the Port Authority shall be deposited into the Port Authority account and shall remain the property of the Port Authority.

164A.14 CONTRACT PROCEDURES

The Port Authority shall provide to Summit County Council and the County Auditor its policy of bid process and contract procedure awards.

164A.15 TRAVEL

The Board of Directors shall establish a travel Policy and procedure to govern all travel expenses incurred by the Port Authority. The Board shall promptly file a copy of its travel Policy and procedure and any amendments thereto upon their adoption with the Clerk of County Council and the County Auditor.

164A.16 ANNUAL REPORTS

The Port Authority shall submit an annual report to Summit County Council, with quarterly updates, regarding Port Authority activities, including details on Port Authority contracts, purchases and sales or leases of property and details on Port Authority receipt and expenditure of funds, including travel expenses.

164A.17 AUDIT

The Port Authority shall be audited by the State Auditor's Office on a regular basis to be determined by the State Auditor. In conformance with the provisions of the O.R.C., the Port Authority may, with the prior approval of the State Auditor, hire an independent certified public accounting firm which firm shall conduct an annual audit of the Port Authority's books and records. The Board shall file a copy of the audit with the Clerk of County Council within five (5) days of their receipt. Additional financial or management audits of the Authority may be required by ordinance of County Council..

164A.18 OPEN MEETINGS

All meetings of the Port Authority Board of Directors and Advisory Committee shall be open to the public as required by Section 5.03 of the Summit County Charter, unless the subject matter under consideration is excepted by law. All meetings of the Board of Directors of the Port Authority shall be held in the Ohio Building, 175 S. Main Street, Akron, Ohio, except as follows: Port Authority meetings may be held from time to time at a different location for good reason provided each such meeting is approved by separate resolution of the Port Authority Board of Directors.

164A.19 OPEN RECORDS

All records of the Port Authority shall be public records as required by Chapter 149 of the Ohio Revised Code currently or as it is amended in the future.

164A.20

The provisions set forth in Sections 164A.10, 164A.11, 164A.12, 164A.13, 164A.14, 164A.15, 164A.16, and 164A.17 shall remain in effect until the Port Authority Board presents its own recommendations for policies and procedures governing these areas and which recommendations must be submitted to and approved by the Executive and County Council.

SECTION 2.

This ordinance is hereby declared an emergency to provide new controls on the activities and powers of the Summit County Port Authority in the interest of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of the County of Summit.

SECTION 3.

Provided this ordinance receives the affirmative votes of eight members, it shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

INTRODUCED January 19, 1999

ADOPTED March 15, 1999


CLERK OF COUNCIL


PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

APPROVED _____

EXECUTIVE

ENACTED EFFECTIVE March 25, 1999

On voice vote:

Yes: Bolek, Congrove, Crawford, Crossland, Gallagher,
Givens, Grimm, Heydorn, Smith, Zurz

Absent: Norris