

SPONSOR

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RESOLUTION NO. 2026-40

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR AND FIRE CHIEF OF THE CITY OF WELLSTON TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE VILLAGE OF COALTON AND COALTON VOLUNTEER FIREMEN, INC., AND TO NEGOTIATE A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES TO THE VILLAGE OF COALTON, COAL TOWNSHIP, AND JACKSON TOWNSHIP; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Village of Coalton, Coal Township, Jackson Township, and Coalton Volunteer Firemen, Inc. have expressed an interest in exploring a cooperative arrangement whereby the City of Wellston may provide fire protection services to such jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Wellston finds it advisable and in the best interests of the public health, safety, and welfare to authorize preliminary discussions, negotiations, and the execution of Memorandums of Understanding to facilitate the evaluation and development of such a cooperative service arrangement; and

WHEREAS, this matter constitutes an emergency as existing and/or pending fire protection arrangements affecting the Village of Coalton, Coal Township, and Jackson Township may expire, terminate, or otherwise leave those jurisdictions without contractual fire protection coverage, thereby creating uncertainty in emergency response services and increasing the likelihood that the City of Wellston will be called upon to provide emergency assistance pursuant to existing mutual aid obligations, potentially resulting in operational, staffing, equipment, and financial hardships for the City unless a coordinated service arrangement is promptly developed; and

WHEREAS, any final agreement for the provision of fire protection services shall be subject to review and approval by the Wellston City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Wellston, Jackson County, Ohio, that:

Section 1. The Service-Safety Director and the Fire Chief are hereby authorized to execute Memorandums of Understanding with the Village of Coalton and Coalton Volunteer Firemen, Inc., on behalf of the City of Wellston, for the purpose of facilitating discussions, cooperation, information sharing, planning, and evaluation concerning the future provision of fire protection services.

Section 2. The Service-Safety Director and the Fire Chief are further authorized and directed to negotiate with representatives of the Village of Coalton, Coal Township, Jackson Township, and Coalton Volunteer Firemen, Inc. regarding the terms and conditions of a mutually acceptable

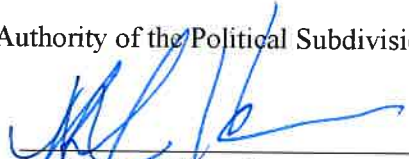
agreement under which the City of Wellston may provide fire protection services to the Village of Coalton, Coal Township, and Jackson Township.

Section 3. Any proposed final agreement resulting from such negotiations shall be presented to the Wellston City Council for consideration and approval prior to execution by the City.

Section 4. This Resolution is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare for the reasons stated above. Therefore, it is necessary that the Service-Safety Director and Fire Chief be immediately authorized to enter into Memorandums of Understanding and commence negotiations toward a mutually acceptable fire protection agreement, and this Resolution shall take effect and be in force immediately upon its adoption.

It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that the deliberations of this Council that resulted in such formal actions were in a meeting open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

16th PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Legislative Authority of the Political Subdivision on this
day of July, 2026.



President of Council

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Legislative Authority

Approved this 16th day of June 2026.



Mayor