

ORDINANCE NO. 2026- 07 FIRST READING January 20, 2026
INTRODUCED BY: RUTH CAVANAGH SECOND READING FEBRUARY 5, 2026
THIRD READING FEBRUARY 7, 2026

ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE FISCAL OFFICER TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT NOPEC GRANT FUNDS FOR THE 2026 COMMUNITY EVENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM ON BEHALF OF THE VILLAGE OF SOUTH RUSSELL AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, the Village of South Russell is a participating member community of NOPEC;

WHEREAS, each year, NOPEC designates funds to support events held by its participating member communities; and

WHEREAS, Council for the Village of South Russell desires to apply for and accept such NOPEC grant funds for eligible events of the Village of South Russell.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the Village of South Russell, Geauga County, Ohio that:

SECTION 1. The Fiscal Officer, on behalf of the Village of South Russell, is hereby authorized to apply for and accept NOPEC grant funds for eligible events of the Village of South Russell through NOPEC's 2026 Community Event Sponsorship Program, as more fully described in the Community Acknowledgement and Organization Acknowledgment forms attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as **Exhibits A and B.**

SECTION 2. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees on or after December 2, 1975, that resulted in formal actions, were in meetings open to the public in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety of the Village of South Russell and for the further reason this Ordinance must be immediately effective because of NOPEC's application deadline date of April 30, 2026; wherefore provided it receives the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of all members elected to Council, this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and immediately upon its passage by this Council; otherwise, it shall take effect and be in force after the earliest period allowed by law.



Mayor – Presiding Officer

ATTEST:

Daniele Romnawski
Fiscal Officer

I certify that Ordinance No. 2026-07 was duly enacted on the 7th day of FEBRUARY 2026, by the Council of the Village of South Russell, and published in accordance with the Codified Ordinances of the Village.

Daniele Romnawski
Fiscal Officer

Community Acknowledgment Form

I Danielle Romanowski Fiscal Officer have been appointed by duly elected
Name Job Title
Chief Executive Officer Mayor/Council to act as designee for VILLAGE OF SOUTH RUSSELL
Mayor/CEO Name Community
for purposes of the 2026 NOPEC Community Event Sponsorship Program.

In providing my signature, I DANIELLE ROMANOWSKI agree to all guidelines, conditions, and requirements
Name
outlined below in this agreement and confirm my role as community designee.

Sponsorship Guidelines

All applications for funds must be received by April 30, 2026.

Conditions of funding:

1. The event must be free and open to all residents of your community.
2. Provide an engagement opportunity, enabling NOPEC to connect with residents in a meaningful and relevant way that would not be otherwise possible without the sponsorship.
3. NOPEC logo and/or name exposure is desired and preferred but is not required in order to receive sponsorship funds.
4. Each receiving entity must provide a completed Community Event Sponsorship Organization Agreement packet.
 - a. NO PAPER CHECKS WILL BE ISSUED.
5. All information submitted is confidential. Personal information collected through the process is needed to assess your communities' application and, if awarded, the sponsorship's administration.
6. Funds will be disbursed no later than the end of the Third Quarter of the award year.

NOPEC will not sponsor:

1. Religious centered events.
2. Political campaign events.
3. Events that do not align with NOPEC's mission and values.
 - a. Determined upon application review.
4. Discriminatory events.
5. Duplicate existing sponsorships or involve direct competitors.

NOPEC Vendor Requirements:

- When possible, NOPEC prefers to provide funds to non-profit organizations to facilitate the planning and execution of events.
- NOPEC will provide funds to for-profit groups when necessary.
- All communities and vendors must complete necessary documentation and upload it to the application portal to receive sponsorship funds.
 - For communities, this will confirm that you are disbursing the funds allocated for your community to your chosen vendor.
 - For vendors, this includes a W-9, ACH form, and a signed vendor agreement.

DANIELLE ROMANOWSKI

Print name

Danielle Romanowski

Signature

2.9.26

Date

The 2026 Community Event Sponsorship Program

Who is NOPEC?

The Northeastern Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC) is a non-profit energy supplier that provides competitive energy cost savings to residents and small businesses using a buy in bulk method. NOPEC negotiates for lower energy rates and better terms and conditions, educates residents and customers on how they can conserve energy and save even more on their energy bills and advocates for customer-friendly legislation at both the state and federal level.

What is the NOPEC Community Event Sponsorship Program?

Each year NOPEC designates funds to support events held in participating communities. NOPEC funds are available through designation at the community level towards events that are free and open to all residents. The event can also help NOPEC educate residents about energy efficiency and programs available to them. NOPEC does not sponsor religious centered events, political events, events that do not align with NOPEC's mission, values and statutory authority, events that may be viewed as discriminatory, or events sponsored by other energy aggregators or competitors. Please also view NOPEC's Event Sponsorship Program video at: <https://www.nopec.org/communities/member-benefits/community-event-sponsorship-program/>

Whom do I contact with more questions?

If you have any questions about the program, please contact the Community Outreach Team at sponsorships@nopec.org or by calling (440) 772-0429

Organization Acknowledgment

I understand that 'the organization', as named below, is the entity receiving the Sponsorship Dollars. This can be a non-profit organization, a for-profit entity, or your community.

WSK

Initials

If the community, Village of South Russell, is the recipient of these funds, we designate
Community Name
William Koons, Mayor as the party responsible for upholding the requirements outlined below.
Department/Committee

WSK

Initials

In exchange for participating in the 2026 Community Event Sponsorship Program,

Village of South Russell acknowledges and agrees to all the following:
The Organization

- The Organization agrees to use Program funds only as it has represented on this application. If funds remain after their intended use, the Organization agrees to return any excess funds to NOPEC.
- The Organization will keep a written record of the use of Program funds. NOPEC may ask the Organization for an accounting or itemization of actual use of Program funds. If records are unavailable or demonstrate misuse of Program funds, the Organization agrees to return such Program funds to NOPEC immediately. The Organization also acknowledges that misuse of Program funds will disqualify the Organization from future participation in the Program.
- The Organization is responsible for its compliance with all state and federal laws regarding the event and use of Program funds.
- NOPEC provides the Organization with limited rights to use and reproduce NOPEC's name and logo solely in association with the sponsored community Event.
- NOPEC is a governmental entity subject to the Ohio Public Records Act and may be called upon to produce NOPEC's public records related to this Program.
- NOPEC does not assume any liability for the acts of the Organization or the community event.
- The Organization agrees to hold NOPEC, its Board and employees harmless for any liability arising out of the Organization's action or the event.
- The Responsible Person signing this letter below is authorized to legally bind the Organization. The Responsible Person's signature may be executed electronically and accepted as the Organization's approval.

William J. Koons

Responsible Party of Organization Signature

2-7-26

Date