

Borough of Akron Council Meeting- November 7, 2016

Council Members present- John Williamson, President; Justin Gehman, Vice- President; Thomas Murray, Earl Shirk, Tammy Ruth. (Perry Lorah and Nathan Imhoff not present)

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Brian Boyer

2017 Proposed Budget

2017 Proposed Sewer Budget

Council and Mayor reviewed the 2017 Ephrata Sewer figures-

2017 Treatment- \$336,553.00 and Amortization- \$82,925.00

This figures are a huge increase from the 2016 budget figures- \$249,799.00 for Treatment costs and \$51,196.00 for Amortization costs

Council agreed to increase the sewer rates from \$7.75 to \$9.55 per thousand (minimum 3,000 gallons- \$28.65)

John McBeth mentioned we need to go forward and check valves and pipes and continue to do I & I work.

2017 Proposed Water Budget

Council and Mayor reviewed the 2017 proposed water Fund budget and agreed to lower the water rate from \$7.20 per thousand to \$6.50 per thousand. (Minimum 3,000 gallons- \$19.50)

2017 Proposed General Fund

Council and Mayor reviewed the proposed General Fund and agreed not to increase real estate taxes.

2017 Proposed Highway Aid Budget

Council and Mayor reviewed the 2017 proposed Highway Aid Fund budget

Thomas Murray made a motion to advertise the preliminary balanced budget for the 2017 General Fund in the amount of \$1,603,346.00 and no tax increase and to be approved at the December 12, 2016 Council meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thomas Murray made a motion to advertise the preliminary balanced budget for the 2017 Water Fund in the amount of \$481,450.00, lowering the water rates from \$7.20 per thousand to \$6.50 per thousand with a minimum bill of 3,000 gallons in the amount of \$19.50 and to potentially approve at the December 12, 2016 Council meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thomas Murray made a motion to advertise the preliminary balanced budget for the 2017 Sewer Fund in the amount of \$691,610.00 raising the sewer rate from \$7.75 per thousand to \$9.55 per thousand gallons with a minimum bill of \$3,000 gallons in the amount of \$28.65 and to approve at the December 12, 2016 Council meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thomas Murray made a motion to advertise the preliminary balanced budget for the 2017 Highway Aid Fund in the amount of \$117,641.00 and to be approved at the December 12, 2016 Council Meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Street Sweeping

Street Sweeping is scheduled for December 5 & 6, 2016. It will be advertised in the Ephrata Review, Shopping News, Borough sign, webpage and Swift-Reach.

Sue Davidson will have the Public Works continue cleaning leaves out storm sewers. It was mentioned to remind citizens to remove leaves from gutter lines and storm boxes.

Sue Davidson also mentioned DEP will be doing an inspection on November 22, 2016. This is the first time to be inspected. Tom Murray, Jr. and Sue Davidson will be meeting with Farley Fry from Hanover Engineers to review the items needed for the inspection.

SRO Agreement

The proposed SRO Agreement will be e-mailed to Council and will be on the November 14, 2016 meeting agenda for approval and signatures.

Rail Trail Tree Planting

Tammy Ruth mentioned to wait until spring to plant trees at the Rail Trail. Tammy will contact Nate Imhoff on what types of trees should be planted. Sue Davidson will have Public Works measure both sides of the trail to see how many trees can be planted.

Earl Shirk mentioned that he does not want to see the Borough put a lot of money in this project when there is a significant deficiency in the Roland Park.

It was decided to wait until next spring before moving ahead with this project. Tom Murray suggested to pick the right kind of trees that will not tear up the trail and what kind of tree droppings we will not put up with.

New Business

John Williamson mentioned e-mails should be used to distribute information and not make decisions and be very mindful of what we e-mail.

Old Business

The Borough has received \$95,000.00 grant money from DCNR for the Rail Trail and deposited the money into the General Reserves Fund.

Tom Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager

SD