

**BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- JANUARY 9, 2017**

***Council members present-*** John Williamson, President; Justin Gehman, Vice-President; Thomas Murray, Earl Shirk, Tammy Ruth, Nathan Imhoff, Monica Hersh.

***Others present-*** Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Kenelm L. Shirk III, Solicitor; Police Chief Thomas Zell, Joyce Moyer, Robert Weaver, Kyle Robinson, Robin Seidel, Alan Ruby, Tom Sheetz, John Roche, Mary Groff, Ray Groff, Tom Bender, Sam Baughman, Thomas Murray, Jr., Hailey Imhoff, Janet Stuff, Dick Wanner, Ephrata Review; Donald Reese, Ryan & Nancy Buckwalter, Nathan Buckwalter, Barb Mertz, James Stauffer, Dan Miller, Steve Fry.

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Approval of Minutes***

Earl Shirk made a motion to approve the December 12, 2016 Borough of Akron Council Meeting minutes. Tom Murray seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Mayor Report-*** Mayor John McBeth

January 9, National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

Mayor McBeth mentioned there was a good turnout for the New Year's Eve Shoe-In. The weather was good and approximately 500 people turned out for this event.

***Police Chief-*** Chief Zell

Distributed December 2016 report

Donald Reese from the Akron Civil Service Commission mentioned there is a vacancy for the Police Sergeant. There were two eligible officers and both were given written exams. The Akron Civil Service recommended that Officer Greg Stone be appointed Akron borough Police Sergeant.

Tom Murray made a motion to appoint Gregory Stone as recommended by the Akron Civil Service Commission with a salary of \$77,127.00 (per contract) effective immediately. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Visitors***

Handi-Vangelism

Bob Weaver, attorney for Handi-Vangelism is representing Handi-Vangelism. Handi-Vangelism is a non-profit Christian ministry that deals with persons with disabilities, bereavement issues, mental health services etc. Handi-Vangelism also has a summer camp for people with disabilities and are tax exempt as a non-profit religious organization.

Handi-Vangelism has a signed agreement of sale for the Westview Golf Course located in an R-1 zoning district and is proposing an office and camping facility on this property.

Handi-Vangelism and Westview Golf Course submitted a petition to amend the zoning ordinance.

Handi-Vangelism mentioned approximately 80 people including 18-20 staff members will be on the property in the summer months.

There were conceptual building design models; cabins and a multi-purpose building.

Joyce Moyer asked about taxes and Earl Shirk mentioned there is ongoing discussion with EASD, Akron Borough and the developer in regards to taxes.

Robin Seidel distributed information on why he is selling his property (Westview Golf Course)

- 1) Decline of golf
- 2) weather
- 3) economy-recession
- 4) a lot of respect for Handi-Vangelism

Handi-Vangelism outside activities will be during daylight hours.

Earl Shirk made a motion to direct the Borough Solicitor to advertise the change to the zoning ordinance allowing as a Conditional use, Organizational Headquarters Campuses in the R-1 Zoning District subject to certain limitations. Justin Gehman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### ***Committee Reports***

#### ***Administration and Finance Report-*** Thomas Murray

Thomas Murray made a motion to pay the bills as reviewed by the Finance Committee. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray read into the minutes the December 31, 2016 month-end balances.

General Fund	\$ 24, 245.72
Water Fund	\$ 95, 377.27
Sewer Fund	\$ 14,861.14
Highway Aid Fund	\$ 8,998.25
Cap. Proj Fund	\$ 1.50
General Reserves	\$163,575.06
Water Reserves	\$108,528.42
Sewer Reserves	\$170,951.84
Comm.Fund	\$ 3,414.72
Total	\$589,953.92
Escrow	\$ 60,248.20

Tom Murray reviewed the December 2016 Revenues and Expenditures report

#### ***Streets & Sewer Committee-*** Justin Gehman

Borough Manager sent letter to Stewart & Tate in regards to Council member's frustration with the Main Street project.

#### ***Personnel & Public Safety Committee-*** Earl Shirk

Earl Shirk mentioned Akron is still trying to fill the vacancy for the Public Works positions.

**Water Committee-** Nathan Imhoff

New meters have been ordered from Kamstrup and will begin installing geographically.

Sue Davidson mentioned she along with John Williamson and Tom Murray, Jr met with Becker Engineering to discuss SRBC and other water issues.

**Parks, Property & Planning Committee-** Tammy Ruth

Tammy Ruth and Nathan Imhoff are working on a design of benches along the Rail Trail.

Tammy Ruth mentioned the next Steering Committee meeting for the Comprehensive Plan is scheduled for Thursday, January 26 at 6:30 p.m.

The light poles along the Rail Trail should be numbered.

**Community Relations and Special Projects-** Monica Hersh

Monica Hersh will meet with the Borough Manager to discuss 2017 goals for this committee.

**Borough Manager/Secretary-** Susan Davidson

Distributed report

Reconciled December 2016 financials

2016 audit will begin end of January 2017.

Preparing year end reports to DCED, PennDot along with W-2's and 1099's.

Updating 5 year street plan and schedule this year's street work.

Water main break repaired on December 16 on Vista Drive.

The permit for the Bomberger Road storm embankment project is being reviewed by Lancaster Conservation District.

Advertising for a full-time and part-time public works employee and part-time clerical employee.

Police contract negotiations will begin in 2017.

The Borough no longer has a uniform contract with Cintas.

Discussed with Earl Shirk the need to update the non-uniform personnel policies.

The Borough Manager would like to schedule time with each committee chair to discuss various issues.

Contacted PennDot about Route 272 crosswalks and we would be required to get a highway occupancy permit.

Contacted PSAB about limiting speaking time for the public and this would require a written policy (resolution) to enforce.

Contacted CM High about the Traffic light and 272 & Main. The phase 2 camera is not working and would need replaced.

***Borough Solicitor-***

Nothing to report

***Fire Chief***

Distributed December 2016 report

***Planning Commission***

Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, January 10, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

***Zoning Hearing***

A Zoning Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, January 31, 2016 for 115 N. Ninth Street requesting a variance and special exception.

***Tax Collector***

Earl Shirk made a motion to adopt Resolution #00195 exonerating the Borough of Akron Tax Collector from collecting delinquent 2016 real estate taxes. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Borough Treasurer***

Nothing to report

***Unfinished Business***

Nothing to report

***New Business***

***Appointments***

Earl Shirk made a motion to appoint John Williamson to a 4 year term on the Akron Borough Planning commission. (2017-2020). Tom Murray seconded the motion. Motion carried. John Williamson abstained from voting.

Tom Murray made a motion to appoint Thomas Bender to a 3 year term on the Borough of Akron Zoning Hearing Board. (2017-2019) Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray made a motion to appoint Kay McEllhenney to a 1 year term on the Borough of Akron Zoning Hearing Board. (Kay was an alternate and this appointment would complete the 3 year term for Annette Swartz who no longer is on the Zoning Hearing Board) Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray made a motion to appoint Terry Reber to a 5 year term on the Akron Authority. (2017-2021) Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

***Committee Meeting***- Monday, January 23, 2017

Justin Gehman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Earl Shirk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson  
Borough Manager/Secretary