

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- MAY 8, 2017

Council Members present- Justin Gehman, Vice-President; Thomas J. Murray, Monica Hersh, Tammy Ruth

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Kenelm L. Shirk III, Solicitor; Police Chief Thomas Zell, Dick Wanner, Ephrata Review; K. L. McEllhenney, H. J. Shirk, Evan Shupp, Ryan Rimby, Don Reese, James Welch, MWN; Keith Landis, Michael Hodgson, Lester Zimmerman, Nathan Shirk, Lora Gomboc.

Approval of Minutes

Thomas Murray made a motion to approve the February 3, 2017 Handi-Vangelism Public Hearing minutes and the April 10, 2017 Borough of Akron Council Meeting minutes. Tammy Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors

Gate House presented a petition to Akron Borough Council. The petition is to amend the Akron Borough Zoning Ordinance to define and permit Community Transitional Housing uses in R-1.

Thomas Murray made a motion to accept the submission of the petition by Gatehouse. Tammy Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justin Gehman and Thomas Murray both mentioned they don't feel comfortable referring the petition to the Akron Borough Planning Commission or Lancaster County Planning Commission without first reviewing it.

Council tabled the petition until the May 22, 2017 committee meeting so Council has time to study the document.

Mayor Report- Mayor John McBeth

Mayor McBeth reviewed the Drug Task Force quarterly report.

Police Chief- Chief Zell

Distributed police Report

Administration and Finance Committee- Thomas J. Murray

Thomas Murray mentioned that the Dept. of the Auditor General conducted an audit for the Uniform and Non-Uniform Pension Plans for the years 2013-2016. There were no findings.

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

Thomas Murray reviewed the outstanding debt.

Rail Trail/Bldg Repair loan- \$583,395.00 (int rate 2.8%)

Police Cruiser lease- \$9,666.00 (int rate 3.74%)
Nitrate Removal System - \$262,880.00 (int 3.7%)

Thomas Murray read into the minutes the April 30,2017 month end balances.

General Fund	\$354,923.71
Water Fund	\$ 87,245.87
Sewer Fund	\$ 36,952.93
Highway Aid Fund	\$129,045.48
General Reserves	\$112,293.10
Water Reserves	\$114,753.44
Sewer Reserves	\$151,663.25
Capital Projects	\$ 11.54
Community fund	\$ 2,601.46
Total	\$989,490.78
Escrow Fund	\$ 60,335.18

Thomas Murray reviewed the April 30, 2017 Revenues and Expenditures

Streets and Sewer Committee- Justin Gehman

Justin Gehman mentioned the street bid opening is May 19, 2017 through the PennBid Program. Sue Davidson will have the bid figures at the next committee meeting.

Justin Gehman asked the Borough Manager to contact Darrell Becker (Arro Engineers) to take a look at Main Street and the recent paving. The street is very bumpy at spots.

Personnel and Public Safety- Earl Shirk (not present)

Thomas Murray made a motion to hire Jesse Whiteman for temporary part-time summer help beginning May 10, 2017 at \$11/hr not to exceed 800 hours.

Tammy Ruth made a motion to hire Dale Putt as a part-time meter reader at 10/hr effective May 9, 2017. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Sue Davidson and Earl Shirk are in the process of updating the non-uniform personnel manual.

Water & Parks Committee- Nathan Imhoff

Nathan Imhoff mentioned the GoFundMe account has been set up and some donations have been made towards the access trail in Colonial Park.

Property & Planning Committee- Tammy Ruth

Tammy Ruth mentioned the next Steering Committee is scheduled for May 25, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Akron Volunteer Fire Company.

Community Relations & Special Projects Committee- Monica Hersh

Monica Hersh mentioned Barnstormer tickets will be going on sale for \$8.00 ticket. Akron Night at the Barnstormers is scheduled for Friday, June 16, 2017.

Monica requested that the Akron Day in the Park scheduled for June 10th be posted on the sign in front of the Borough Office and put on the Borough webpage.

Borough Manager- Susan Davidson

Distributed April 2017 report

- 1) April 2017 financials have been reconciled
- 2) Street Bids will be received online via Pennbid on Friday, May 19, 2017
- 3) In the process of scheduling a meeting with EAJA to discuss Garden Spot Village
- 4) Police negotiations will begin in the next few weeks.
- 5) Filed a Notice of Violation against the owner of the property located at 206 S. 10th street.
- 6) Meeting with Darrell Becker (Arro Engineers) on May 9, to discuss spec's for the aces trail.
- 7) A zoning hearing is scheduled for May 23, 2017. There are two applicants.
- 8) Need to complete all the changes on the proposed zoning ordinance and forward to Lancaster County Planning Commission for their review.

Borough Solicitor

Nothing to report

Fire Chief

Distributed April 2017 report and 2016 Annual Report

Planning Commission

Nothing to report

Zoning Hearing

A Zoning Hearing is scheduled for May 23, 2017. There are two applicants.

Marmax LLC is requesting a variance and special exception to allow the conversion of an existing commercial space into an additional residential unit at 115 N. Ninth Street.

Show N Go Auto Repair and Detailing is requesting a use variance to allow the use of an existing space for auto repair and detailing at 401 S. Seventh Street.

Tax Collector

County Real Estate Taxes collected in April 2017 - \$461, 881.30

Borough Real Estate Taxes collected in April 2017 - \$340,075.09

Unfinished Business

Water Tower Lease Agreement will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

New Business

Thomas Murray made a motion to approve \$220.00 for stormwater brochures. Tammy Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Committee Meeting- Monday, May 22, 2017

Gate House

Codification

Street Bids

Visitor Comments

Justin Gehman invited visitors to comment

Don Reese mentioned to Council that residents came to this meeting to voice their concerns/opinions on Gate House and they should be heard.

Warren Hackman- 1241 Hillcrest Road has concerns with Gate House. Mr. Hackman has three daughters and is concerned about 24 men living near a childcare center and close the Akron Elementary School and is also concerned about property values.

Raymond Shroud, Diamond Station Road concerned about the property value and mentioned there is only one person supervising over twenty people.

Jeff Shirk, Main Street, Akron – On the Gate House website the people that are running Gate House know what they are doing. Jeff mentioned he owned a B&B and do you sleep at night knowing who is in your house.

Lester Zimmerman, Tobacco Road operates a fruit stand and it is the honor system and got robbed two times last year. Concerned about security for his family. The Box wood Inn is an historic building and should stay that way. Zimmerman also mentioned he will never know his neighbors and stormwater is also an issue.

Nathan Shirk, 276 Tobacco Road has the same concerns as Lester Zimmerman.

Chief Zell mentioned he spoke with Chief Nye from the Warwick Police Department in regards to Gate House. Chief Zell mentioned in the past three years there has been hardly any issues. Prior to that there were quite a few problems with Gate House. The Warwick Police Dept had to sit down with Gate House staff about their policies. If a resident did not abide by the rules they were not allowed back in and then they were left to roam the streets and get into trouble. The Gate House policies have since changed and does not disallow residents to come back in.

The other issue is Gate House does not give information on residents if police have a bench warrant.

Thomas Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tammy Ruth seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Secretary