

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- MAY 28, 2019

Council Members present- John Williamson, President; Thomas J. Murray, Sr., Vice President; Nathan Imhoff, Monica Hersh, Keith Landis. (Justin Gehman and Darryl Witmer not present)

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager.

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m.

Zoning Fees

The Borough Manager recommended the Borough of Akron Zoning Hearing Fees be increased from \$400.00 per Zoning Hearing Application to \$650.00 per Zoning Hearing Application. The Zoning Hearing increase will be on the June 10, 2019 Council Meeting agenda.

Nuisance Property Ordinance

Keith Landis reviewed the proposed Akron Borough Nuisance Property Ordinance. Keith mentioned that he would like to give investment property owners six month' notice before enforcing the ordinance.

This ordinance will affect both renters and homeowners. Keith Landis questioned if hotels should be treated as one property and who will administer the paperwork to the violator.

Tom Murray, Sr. suggested we implement the ordinance immediately after adoption.

The Borough Manager will forward the proposed Nuisance Property Ordinance to the Borough Solicitor for his review.

T-Mobile

The T-Mobile amendment will be on the June 10, 2019 agenda with comments from the Borough Engineer and Borough Solicitor.

Engineering Request for Proposals

John Williamson handed the meeting over to Tom Murray, Sr., Vice-President at 7:04 p.m.

Tom Murray, Sr. asked Council members and Mayor McBeth their thoughts on the engineers that were interviewed recently by Council.

Nathan Imhoff mentioned that he did not like the structure of Lancaster Civil Engineering Company but he had good answers from Hanover Engineering.

Keith Landis agreed with Nathan Imhoff and mentioned that Great Valley Consultants had more resources but would go with Hanover Engineering.

Mayor McBeth mentioned that he was not impressed with Great Valley Consultants and the Borough does have a lot of history with Arro Engineering and would hesitantly go with Arro Engineering.

Tom Murray, Sr. mentioned he likes Lancaster Civil Engineering Company but it was not working for us. Tom also mentioned that he was taken aback with Great Valley Consultants when asked about nitrate removal systems. Tom Murray, Sr mentioned that Hanover Engineering can step in as a water operator and also mentioned that he is disappointed with Arro Engineering and would like to replace with Hanover Engineering.

Darryl Witmer (who was not present at the meeting) asked the Borough Manager to give his input on the engineering decision. Darryl Witmer stated that Akron Borough has history with Hanover Engineering and felt that Great Valley Consultants were distant.

The engineering decision will be on the June 10, 2019 Council meeting agenda.

The meeting was turned back to John Williamson, President of Council at 7:20 p.m.

Walnut Street

Tom Murray Sr. and Nathan Imhoff met at Diller and Walnut Street to look at sidewalk that are up to bid spec's.

Nathan Imhoff mentioned that the downspouts are not to be in the sidewalk. Sue Davidson will contact the zoning officer tomorrow who inspects the sidewalks about this issue.

Community Activities

The Borough Manager mentioned Doggie Days in the Park took place May 19,2019 and there were 13 registrants.

Darryl Witmer would like to schedule a concert for Friday, June 28th, 2019. The name of the group is Hellfish and they play classic rock& roll and the cost is \$700.00.

Barnstormer tickets are now available for the June 14th Akron Night at the Barnstormers. Barnstormer tickets are \$8.00 and can be purchased at the Akron Borough Office, Royers Pharmacy and Weisers Markets.

Darryl Witmer would like to come up with ideas for the Mennonite Central Committee 100th Anniversary.

Monica Hersh entered the meeting at 7:35 p.m.

Mennonite Central Committee

The Mennonite Central committee would like to sponsor the Akron Borough newsletter for their 100th Anniversary in 2010. They would like to have an insert to be mailed along with the newsletter and will pay extra postage.

Keith Landis mentioned we need to have a policy on mailings.

Akron Borough Comprehensive Plan Task Force

John Williamson mentioned that Penny Talbert, Deborah Fast and Joyce Moyer are all interested in serving on the Task Force for the Implementation of the Akron Borough Comprehensive Plan.

Engineering Request for Proposals (cont'd)

John Williamson turned the meeting over to Tom Murray, Sr, Vice-President of Council at 7:40 p.m.

Monica Hersh mentioned that she is not sure Lancaster Civil Engineering Company is her second choice but not sure if they can do the job but did like their billing. Monica also mentioned that Great Valley Consultants is too far away and Hanover Engineering is her first choice.

The meeting was turned back to John Williamson, President of Council at 7:45 p.m.

Personnel

Mayor McBeth mentioned that the PA Chiefs of Police Association offers search services for hiring of Police Chiefs. Chief Zell is retiring as Akron Borough Police Chief on December 31, 2020. The Mayor requested that we get references of municipalities(similar criteria and size of Akron Borough) that used the PA Chief of Police Associations for hiring police chiefs.

The June 10, 2019 agenda will include assigning the hiring of a Police Chief to the Personnel Committee.

Three applicants were interviewed for the seasonal position. The Borough Manager recommendation is Elias Long and this item will be on the June 10, 2019 Borough Council Meeting agenda.

The Personnel Committee met on April 29, 2019 to discuss hiring an administrative assistant. Monica Hersh, Chairperson of Personnel mentioned it is beneficial to have someone in the office that could help with phones and covering vacations and lunches than to outsource. The Borough Manager distributed copies of an employment advertisement for a part-time Administrative Assistant (20-15 hours per week), no benefits. The job would included A/P, A/R, payroll, bank reconciliations, month end financial reports and other office duties.

Council did not take action on hiring a minute taker.

Tom Murray, Sr. left the meeting at 8:13 p.m.

Council discussed the proposed Non-Uniform Employee Manual. The Borough Manager asked to meet with the Personnel Committee to discuss the proposed Non-Uniform Employee Manual.

Tom Murray, Sr. returned to the Council meeting.

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried. 8:20 p.m.

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to reconvene the meeting. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting reconvened at 8:40 p.m.

Monica Hersh made a motion to have the President of Council provide a personnel related letter. Tom Murray, Sr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager/Secretary

SD