

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- DECEMBER 9, 2019

Council Members present- John Williamson, President; Thomas J. Murray, Sr., Vice-President; Justin Gehman, Nathan Imhoff, Monica Hersh, Darryl Witmer, Kleon Zimmerman.

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Secretary; Police Chief Thomas Zell, Dick Wanner, Ephrata Review; Ryan Cochran, George Wolf, John Taylor, Ryan Myers, Keith Landis, Luke Stauffer, David York, Paul Swangren.

Meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Justin Gehman made a motion to approve the November 11 and November 25, 2019 Council Meeting minutes. Darryl Witmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors

Keith Landis thanked John Williamson for all his hard work serving on Council for the past four years.

Luke Stauffer was present to observe the meeting.

Ryan Myers, John Taylor, Ryan Cochran and George Wolf were all present to observe the meeting.

Officer Reports

Mayor- Mayor John McBeth

Mayor McBeth received a letter from PA. State Association of Borough's wanting to recognize the Borough for it's upcoming 125th anniversary in 2020. Mayor McBeth needs to research the exact date of Akron Borough's incorporation.

Police Report- Chief Zell

Distributed November 2019 report

Borough Manager

Distributed November 2019 report

Received a quote from Concrete Authority on damaged curb and sidewalk on Walnut Street and waiting for another quote form Triple K Concrete.

The lodge ceiling at Roland Park is complete along with the lighting.

Water/sewer bills were mailed November 15th, 2019 and Due December 16, 2019.

Discussed health insurance changes with the non-uniform employees and distributed copies of the new non-uniform employee handbook to employees.

A text amendment request was received from Handi-Vangelism to change zoning for Section 27-1238.E permanent signs and also waiting on a Conditional Use Application to requesting a change to the parking entrance on Fulton Street for Handi-Vangelism.

A zoning hearing was scheduled for November 21, 2019 for 125 N. Eleventh Street, Akron requesting relief for building setback and lot width requirements for a proposed house was approved by the Akron Borough Zoning Hearing Board.

A Notice of Violations was sent to 115 N. Ninth Street for operating a short-term rental.

A certified letter was mailed to the owner of 113 Front Street where stormwater run-off is flowing onto the neighbor's property.

Tax Collector Report

Distributed November 2019 report

County Real Estate Taxes collected in November 2019 \$3,378.33

Borough Real Estate Taxes collected in November 2019 \$3,481.60

Fire Company

Distributed November 2019 report

Comprehensive Plan Implementation Task Force

The Task Force will continue to meet on the first Wednesday of each month in 2020. Darryl Witmer will now be attending the meetings.

John Williamson mentioned the Economic Development Company of Lancaster has offered for Akron to work with an action team and to generate an identity statement and related branding ideas.

There are currently two Akron Borough Facebooks and both will continue until early January 2020 and one page will be deleted to avoid confusion.

Borough Council Committee Reports

Administration & Finance Committee- Thomas J. Murray, Sr.

Tom Murray, Sr. read into the minutes the November 2019 month-end balances

General Fund	\$335,194.00
Water Fund	\$ 1,958.78
Sewer Fund	\$ 15,627.40
Highway Aid Fund	\$144,857.07
General Reserves	\$196,173.19
Water Reserves	\$278,541.59
Sewer Reserves	\$123,709.61
Cap. Projects Fund	\$ 371.58
Community Fund	\$ 3,222.78
Total	\$1,099,656.00
Escrow	\$ 63,132.77

Tom Murray, Sr. reviewed the November 2019 Revenues and Expenditures Report

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to approve the bills as reviewed by the Finance Committee and Mayor. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Community Relations and Special Events- Darryl Witmer

Darryl Witmer mentioned that Dave and Dawn Smith donated a Christmas Tree and decorations at Weiser's Market.

Darryl Witmer mentioned the Christmas House Decorating Contest sign up deadline is December 15, 2019 and the winners will be announced December 31, 2019 at the Akron New Year's Eve Shoe-In.

Akron New Year's Eve Shoe-In will have a hayride, food, hot chocolate and games. This event will begin at 9 pm at the Broad Street Park.

Streets and Public Utilities- Justin Gehman

Nothing at this time

Parks Committee- Nathan Imhoff

Discussed replacing the current light with a solar light for the flag pole at Roland Park.

Personnel Committee- Monica Hersh

Nothing at this time will discuss personnel later in the meeting.

Discussion Items

Walnut Street

Justin Gehman mentioned the trenching work will hopefully begin next week on Walnut Street.

Monica Hersh asked if those who have unfinished sidewalks will be ticketed for not shoveling snow. No they will not be ticketed because the sidewalks are incomplete.

Accrued Personal and Sick Time

It was mentioned not to pay out the accrued sick time and to rollover any unused personal time into 2020 and if it is not used then the time is lost.

Paul Swangren mentioned that this is counter productive and there is no incentive. Paul Swangren also mentioned that make these changes for new employees.

Ryan Myers mentioned that it sounds like you are screwing people of accrued time that they have earned over the years.

Kleon Zimmerman mentioned to pay out the sick time and them move forward.

Nathan Imhoff mentioned he is not ready to vote on this matter and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to inform the non-uniform employees that the personal hours that they have remaining can be carried over into 2020 but the hours must be used or they will lose them. Darryl Witmer seconded the motion. Motion carried. Tom Murray, Sr. did not participate in any discussion or vote on this motion.

Action Items

2020 Budget

2020 Proposed Budget was properly advertised.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to adopt the 2020 General Fund Balanced Budget in the amount of \$1,994,062.00. Darryl Witmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to adopt the 2020 Water Fund Balanced Budget in the amount of \$464,832.00. Justin Gehman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to adopt the 2020 Sewer Fund Balanced Budget in the amount of \$928,319.00. Kleon Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justin Gehman made a motion to adopt the 2020 Highway Aid Balanced Budget in the amount of \$253,668.00. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2020 Sewer Rate Increase

Monica Hersh made a motion to adopt Resolution #00223 approving the sewer rates to \$15.25 with a minimum of \$45.75 for the first three thousand gallons effective February 1, 2020. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Section 125

Justin Gehman made a motion to adopt Resolution #00224 and agreement for Section 125, for pre-tax deductions for employees health insurance effective January 1, 2020. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Monica Hersh made a motion to continue employee health insurance with Highmark Insurance through Benecon for the year 2020. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Tom Murray, Sr made a motion to approve Herbein and Company to perform the 2019 Borough of Akron Annual audit. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to advertise the Re-Organizational meeting for January 6, 2020 at 7 pm. Darryl Witmer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justin Gehman made a motion to approve the Hanover Engineering proposal for the Front Street survey, design and bid documents in the amount of \$18,994.00. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to accept the resignation of Robert Ober as Treasurer effective December 31, 2019. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ryan Cochran gave Council a copy of his resume and a brief summary of his financial background and his interest in serving as Treasurer for the Borough of Akron.

Unfinished Business

John Williamson mentioned the Growing Greener Grant is due on December 20, 2019.

Monica Hersh made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the Borough Manager's review. Nathan Imhoff seconded the motion. Motion carried. Council went into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to reconvene the meeting. Justin Gehman seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting reconvened at 9:11 p.m. No decisions were made on the personnel matter.

Mayor McBeth and other Council members thanked John Williamson for his time on Borough Council.

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager/Secretary

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