

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- DECEMBER 30, 2020

Council Members present- Nathan Imhoff, President; Thomas J. Murray, Sr., Darryl Witmer, Paul Swangren, Jr. (Justin Gehman, Vice-President, Randall Justice -Zoom) Kleon Zimmerman not present

Others present- Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Kenelm L. Shirk III, Solicitor; West Earl Police Chief Eric Higgins, Butch Keppley.

Zoom Visitors- Mayor John McBeth, Richard Rupp, Jeremy Sorenson, Mitch Rogers.

Meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

Police Services

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to adopt Resolution #00235 authorizing the execution of an Agreement between Akron Borough and West Earl Township relating to the provision by the Township of Police Services within the Borough. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Justin Gehman-yes

Randall Justice-yes

Thomas J. Murray, Sr.-yes

Darryl Witmer-yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.-yes

Nathan Imhoff-yes

Motion carried.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to adopt the Agreement between Akron Borough and West Earl Township to have the Township provide Police Services within the Borough of Akron. The Agreement shall be for a five-year period commencing January 1, 2021 and ending December 31, 2025. Thomas J. Murray, Sr. seconded the motion.

Mayor McBeth asked about non-emergency phone number for Akron and will we continue to use that number. Council said we will keep the non-emergency number 717-859-6600.

Roll Call Vote:

Justin Gehman-yes

Randall Justice-yes

Thomas J. Murray, Sr.-yes

Darryl Witmer-yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.-yes

Nathan Imhoff-yes

Motion carried.

Kenelm L. Shirk III mentioned the Agreement must be filed along the Resolution.

Thomas J. Murray, Sr. made a motion to adopt Ordinance #00103 amending the Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Akron to cease operation of the Akron Borough Police Department and to appoint the West Earl Township Police Department to serve as the Borough's Police Department until replaced. Ordinance was properly advertised and posted. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote:

Justin Gehman-yes

Randall Justice-yes

Thomas J. Murray, Sr.-yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.-yes

Darryl Witmer-yes

Nathan Imhoff-yes

Motion carried.

The Borough Solicitor mentioned the final ordinance in regards to what the Township should be policing has not been prepared. Tom Murray, Sr. mentioned that discussion took place at the police committee meetings and will get those meeting minutes the Borough Solicitor.

West Earl Township will handle all Right-To-Know Request for police.

The Borough Manager will have the locks changed in the Akron Police Department tomorrow to secure the area and only police officers will have the keys to access that area.

Chief Higgins thanked Council for their patience and support.

Thomas J. Murray, Sr. made a motion to authorize the first payment to West Earl Township for Police Services in the amount of \$58,728.63. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thomas Murray mentioned computer and camera issues will be discussed at a later time.

John McBeth thanked Chief Higgins and Nathan Imhoff also thanked West Earl, the Solicitor and the Police Committee Team. Justin Gehman also thanked the officers.

Paul Swangren, Jr. mentioned the Assistant Borough Manager Ordinance should be the Assistant Borough Secretary/Manager Ordinance. The function of enforcement is with the Borough Manager not the assistant.

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Secretary

SD