

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING – MARCH 4, 2021

Council Members present- Nathan Imhoff, President; Justin Gehman, Vice-President; Thomas J. Murray, Sr., Kleon Zimmerman, Paul Swangren, Jr., Randall Justice.

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Sean Molchany, Assistant Borough Manager; Denise Auker, Ryan Cochran, Ryan Myers, Michael Morris, Joseph Boone, Matthew Plank, Bonnie Young. Zoom- John Williamson, Monica Hersh

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Interviews for Council Member Vacancy

Denise Auker, S. Ninth Street, Akron mentioned that she has lived in Akron for 14 years and is employed by Wilbur Chocolate in Lititz, PA. Denise also serves on the Akron Borough Comprehensive Implementation Committee. Denise mentioned that she wants to get involved in the community and also mentioned that the parks are not in good shape. Denise also mentioned that she is not afraid to express her opinion. Council thanked Denise.

Joseph Boone mentioned that he has lived in Akron about ten months and is employed as a Homecare Nurse and has worked with the Republican Office in Lancaster and has been involved in volunteer work in York. Joseph Boone mentioned that Akron is a neat little town and a nice town. Nathan Imhoff asked if he has time to spend on Council and Joseph replied yes. When asked if being on the opposite end of what other Council members want, Joseph stated he will try to compromise. Joseph also mentioned he likes being involved in community events.

Ryan Cochran mentioned that he grew up in Akron and has lived in Akron for 27 years and currently lives on Main Street. Ryan has a trucking and crop spraying company. Ryan currently serves as Akron Borough Treasurer and Chairperson for the Akron Borough Planning Commission. Ryan mentioned that the parks and water/sewer systems need work. Paul Swangren, Jr. asked what passion do you have for the community. Ryan stated that he has a lot of passion for Akron and everyone has their own area of expertise. Ryan also mentioned he has more time to serve on Council and to be flexible.

Michael Morris mentioned to Council that he has lived in Akron for 4 ½ years and is an IT Director. Michael mentioned that there are issues to work on in the community. Michael also mentioned that he would like to work on communicating better with the younger generation and using facebook and better ways to purify water. Michael mentioned that he has his wife's support to help him make it work.

Negotiation skills- constantly compromising at work and work out something favorable on both sides.

Ryan Myers currently lives on Broad Street and grew up in Akron and has family that lives in Akron. Ryan is self employed for C & C Manufacturing Equipment. Ryan is also an Akron Lions Club member and will be able to devote time to serving on Akron Borough Council.

Negotiation Skills- works on team all day and always working for a win-win

Matthew Plank mentioned that he was born and raised in Ephrata and has lived in Akron for 3 years. Matthew does catering for Garden Spot Village. Matthew mentioned that he is involved in community outreach and he volunteers on a committee that serves 400 meals on the 4th Monday of each month. Some of the changes that Matthew would like to see is improvements with water/sewer and modernizing the parks. When asked about being the odd man out, Matthew responded that compromise is the best way through the learning process and to work together as a team.

Bonnie Young has lived in Akron for 30 years and loves Akron. Bonnie has worked as a librarian at the Adamstown Library, Director of the Lititz Library and liked working with municipal Council members in Lititz. Bonnie has also worked for the State of Pennsylvania for libraries and was Executive Director for the Lancaster Library System, wrote grant applications and raised funds for libraries. Bonnie is now retired and has more time to give back to the community. When asked about being the odd person out, Bonnie responded that she will go with the majority view or opinion.

Paul Swangren, Jr asked each applicants to name just one of their favorite things you like about Akron

Michael Morris- Community

Joseph Boone- Peaceful

Matthew Plan- Safe

Ryan Myers- Family

Bonnie Young- Safety

Ryan Cochran-Weiser's market

Denise Auker- Walkability

Council and Mayor McBeth thanked everyone who came out to be interviewed.

Voting Results- 1st vote

Michael Morris-2

Bonnie Young-2

Ryan Cocharn-1

Denise Auker 1

Voting Results -2nd vote

Michael Morris-3

Bonnie Young-2

Ryan Cochran-1

Thomas J. Murray, Sr made a motion to appoint Michael Morris to Akron Borough Council to fill the vacancy. Randall Justice seconded the motion. Roll Call

Kleon Zimmerman-yes

Randall Justice-yes

Thomas J. Murray, Sr.-yes

Nathan Imhoff-yes

Justin Gehman-no

Paul Swangren, Jr.-no

Motion carried.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Randall Justice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson

Borough Secretary

SD