

Borough of Akron Council Meeting

March 12, 2018

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

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Police Chief Thomas Zell, Donald Reese, Thomas Murray, Jr.; Emily Jacoby, Ephrata Review; Lloyd Zeiset, Evan Shupp, Anne Sherman, Kleon M. Zimmerman.

Meeting commenced at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

Monica Hersh stated that she was not in attendance at the February 26, 2018 Council meeting. Justin Gehman made a motion to approve the February 12 and February 26, 2018 corrected minutes. Keith Landis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Citizens Concerns

Anne Sherman, 1256 Main Street mentioned to Council her concerns of feral cats in her neighborhood at Dawn and East End Avenues.

Chief Zell mentioned there is no state law and it is hard to prove who is harboring the cats.

The Borough will put information in the next newsletter about feral cats.

Lloyd Zeiset, N. Ninth Street, Akron has a safety concern about a sidewalk located at 116 Miller Road. A section of the sidewalk drops off and someone can get hurt. The Borough Manager will check it out.

Fred Yochum, Main Street, mentioned he received a snow removal citation. It was mentioned that the Borough is changing the way it will handle this type of citation. Monica Hersh mentioned we should have been doing citations earlier for snow covered sidewalks.

Officers Reports

- 1) Borough Council President- John Williamson mentioned that we will try to organize Council Meetings to be more efficient and will be using a new agenda format. John Williamson mentioned the proposed Rules of Decorum will be discussed in two weeks at the next Council Work Session.
- 2) Mayor Report
- 3) Police Chief- Distributed Report- Chief Zell mentioned on April 25th, 2018 a presentation will be held at the Akron Fire Company on Active Shootings and Crime Prevention. All are welcome to attend. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the presentation begins at 6:30 p.m.
- 4) Borough Manager Report
- 5) Zoning Officer Report
- 6) Tax Collector Report
- 7) Fire Chief Report

Borough Council Committee Reports

Community Relations and Special Projects- Darryl Witmer

Darryl Witmer mentioned that the last meeting a resident had a complaint on Walnut Street about a loud vehicle and it was looked into and the resident received an answer.

Planning & Zoning Committee

Nathan Imhoff made a motion to accept the resignation of Code Administrators as the Borough of Akron Zoning Officer effective March 31, 2018. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Discussion Items

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to appoint Michael Bingham from Arro Engineers as Zoning Officer effective, April 1, 2018. Keith Landis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

John Williamson asked that Michael Bingham be invited to the next meeting on March 26, 2018 (at no charge) and make a brief presentation and to have the Borough Solicitor also attend the next meeting to discuss the proposed fines/ticketing ordinance.

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to adopt Resolution #00207 updating the Borough of Akron sidewalk/curb specifications and to add to Item #4 – General Requirements- Sidewalks must be a minimum of five ft. wide. Item #8 Forms- Forms shall be metal (preferred) or wood. Justin Gehman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Action Items

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to pay the bills as reviewed by the Finance Committee. Nathan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a motion to authorize the Borough Solicitor to advertise the changes to the proposed Zoning Ordinance and to advertise for a public hearing for May 14, 2018. Monica Hersh seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Justin Gehman made a motion to enter Chief Thomas Zell into the DROP Program effective (retroactive January 1, 2018) and for a retirement date of December 31, 2020. Thomas Murray, Sr. seconded the motion. Motion carried but not unanimous. John Williamson, Thomas Murray, Sr., Justin Gehman, Nathan Imhoff, Monica Hersh and Darryl Witmer voted yes. Keith Landis voted no.

Thomas Murray, Sr. read into the minutes the February 2018 month-end balances

General Fund	\$ 84,962.91
Water Fund	\$ 5,619.51
Sewer Fund	\$ 36,031.48
Hwy Aid Fund	\$111,403.93
General Reserves	\$ 25,212.76
Water Reserves	\$256,891.52
Sewer Reserves	\$178,908.39

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Cap Projects	\$ 67.24
Community Fund	\$ 2,108.21
Total	\$701,205.95
Escrow	\$ 60,731.86

Thomas Murray, Sr. reviewed the February 2018 Revenues and Expenditures Report.

2018 Goals will be discussed at the March 26, 2018 meeting.

Akron Borough will receive a refund/credit of \$62,041.00 from Ephrata for the 2017 Wastewater Treatment Costs.

Akron Borough received \$114,569.71 for Liquid Fuels and \$9,800.00 for Road Turnback Annual Maintenance on March 1, 2018.

Justin Gehman, Keith Landis and the Borough Manager will be attending the PSAB Annual Conference in Hershey on June 10-13, 2018. Council asked that more information be submitted on cost before making a motion to approve.

Don Reese mentioned that the sewer drains on the Rail Trail need cleaned. The Borough Manager will have Public Works take care of this.

Justin Gehman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Landis seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager
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