

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- SEPTEMBER 24, 2018

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

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Paul Swangren, Todd Eachus, Comcas; Joe Mikos, Thomas Murray, Jr., Farley Fry, Hanover Engineering

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

Zoning Hearing Alternate

Council interviewed Paul Swangren (Edgehill Drive, Akron) for the Zoning Hearing Alternate. Council needs to interview Jeff Shirk who also applied to be a Zoning Hearing Alternate. Jeff Shirk was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Comcast Franchise Agreement

Keith Landis mentioned that both agreements for Blue Ridge and Comcast should terminate the same day. Council mentioned that when Blue Ridge comes due the term can be matched up at that time.

Keith Landis had concerns about Section 2.6 Competitive Equity

Todd Eachus mentioned he will add language that would further protect the Borough.

Keith Landis also mentioned that Blue Ridge gives the Borough two free lines and any opportunity for that. Todd Eachus mentioned that the FCC under Section 621 (a) (1) states that in kind services or goods are deductible from the franchise fee cap and applies to both incumbent operators and new entrants.

John Williamson mentioned that this is low hanging fruit and Comcast standard installation is any dwelling unit within 200 ft where Blue Ridge is giving the opportunity to the whole community.

Todd Eachus also mentioned that all agreements are identical. Council also agreed not to have the Borough Solicitor review because we already agreed to have Cohen Law Group negotiate.

The Comcast Franchise Agreement will be on the October 8, 2018 Council Meeting agenda.

Comprehensive Plan

There are typos and corrections that need to be made in the proposed Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor McBeth stated the Comprehensive Plan is an excellent guideline and one Council does not determine what another Council will do. Make the ideas from the plan goals over the next few years.

Monica Hersh questioned Section 5.6 Housing #1 and how can we maintain that?

Darryl Witmer mentioned it does not have to be that specific but leads you into a certain direction.

Section 5.0 Recommendations

Actions should be changed to Recommended Actions

John Williamson will make the changes to the proposed plan and send to Council and Mayor next week.

This item will be on the October 8, 2018 Council Meeting agenda. The proposed comprehensive Plan will need to be sent to the Akron Planning Commission, Lancaster County Planning Commission and surrounding municipalities for their review. A Public Hearing is convened to approve or disapprove the Plan.

MS4 Report

Farley Fry from Hanover Engineering reviewed the MS4 report due September 30, 2018.

Farley mentioned that municipal stormwater runoff is getting worse and public education is very important.

Sanitary Sewer

Farley Fry mentioned that July and August are normally low months for sewer flows but this year are much higher.

I & I

Infiltration and Inflow

Infiltration is ground water that finds a weak point in pipe and inflow is surface water flowing into surface vents in yards and or sidewalks.

Farley Fry suggested purchasing hatches for the Golf course Lift Stations that are flood tight not water tight. Modifying vents, and repairing manholes and sewer pipes. Farley also suggested doing nighttime inspection on manholes and check pipes along streams.

Smoke testing was done a few years ago with some success.

Reviewing Bills

The Finance Committee will keep working on the process of reviewing bills.

Employee Compensation

The Borough Solicitor's comments were distributed in regards to employee compensation.

Council asked that the Borough Manager contact PSAB to get a legal interpretation of Section 1006 (6) of the Borough Code for fixing the compensation of borough employees, appointees and officers.

Old Business/New Business

John Williamson mentioned that we are waiting to receive a guidance document from the Lancaster County Planning Commission Short Term Rentals.

Tom Murray, Sr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Keith Landis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager

SD