

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- JULY 26, 2021

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

Others present- Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Sean Molchany, Assistant Borough Manager; West Earl Police Detective Dawn Ray, Larry Alexander, Ephrata Review.

Visitors- Katrina Zimmerman

Meeting Opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council Members/Mayor Roll Call

Thomas J. Murray, Sr. Present
Kleon Zimmerman-Present
Michael Morris-Present
Paul Swangren, Jr. – Present
Randall Justice-Present
Justin Gehman, Vice-President- Present
Nathan Imhoff, President-Present
Mayor John McBeth-Present

Approval of Minutes

Thomas Murray, Sr, made a motion to approve the July 12, 2021 Council Meeting minutes. Randall Justice seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Visitors

Katrina Zimmerman mentioned to Council members that the “Bark in the Park” event went well and there were maybe 100 dogs at the event. Agway donated 100 gift bags.

Katrina mentioned there are 17 holiday wreaths left to be sponsored and bows for the wreaths would be an additional \$280.00.

Kleon Zimmerman mentioned that he was not aware the Ephrata Library was going to participate in the “Bark in the Park” and would have liked to have known ahead of time so those in charge of the event would have a place already set aside for them to set up.

Bills

Kleon Zimmerman made a motion to pay the West Earl Police Services for the month of August 2021 in the amount of \$58,728.63. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Police Report

Detective Dawn Ray was present at the meeting. Detective Ray mentioned there is a high spike of unemployment fraud. Nothing else to report

Mayor Report

Nothing to report

Borough Manager/Assistant Borough Manager

Sean Molchany mentioned that the bathrooms at Roland Park are scheduled to be painted the week of July 26, 2021 and then the work on the Akron Pines would start once the bathrooms are finished.

Community Relations Committee

Harding Yost donated tickets for the “Akron Night at the Barnstormers” and Council decided that two tickets per household; first come, first serve and people need to show residency in Akron Borough.

The Borough Manager will contact the Akron Volunteer Fire Company to see if they would like to participate in the Akron Night at the Barnstormers. In past years the Akron Fire Company would bring one of the engines to this event.

It was also mentioned to contact the Beacon House to see if they would be interested in participating at Akron Night at the Barnstormers.

Parks & Property Committee

Randall Justice mentioned John Stoner would like permission to place bluebird houses in Roland Park in late summer. There will be four to five houses and Mr. Stoner will purchase, place and maintain the bird houses. John Stoner will contact staff for locations in the Roland Park.

Personnel Committee

Paul Swangren, Jr. mentioned that the Personnel Committee met and discussed the Public Works schedule and crossing guards safety meeting.

A copy of an updated draft of the non-uniform handbook will be distributed to Council (expect Thomas Murray, Sr) and a copy to the Mayor.

Streets Committee

Nothing to report

Public Utilities

Comcast hit a service on Park Street and Comcast is repairing. Council asked for an estimate on how much water was lost because of the damaged service.

Sean Molchany mentioned to Council that manholes on Pool Road were looked at there was a lot of clear water. Sean mentioned that we need to televise laterals.

The Borough will reach out to another company (local plumber) to televise laterals on Pool Road.

Sue Davidson will contact the West Earl Township Manager about televising on Pool Road and who should be paying for the work.

Akron Borough Reserves

Thomas Murray, Sr. made a recommendation on how much Reserves the Borough would need in case of an emergency.

General Reserves – 2 months- \$300,000.00

Water Reserves – 3 months - \$105,000.00

Sewer Reserves – 3 months - \$170,000.00

Staff will draft a Reserve Policy to incorporate as part of the Borough budget.

Police Pension Liability

The Borough Manager spoke to West Earl Manager in regard to the Uniform Police Liability. Because Akron Borough no longer has a Police Pension, the actuarial report would be done by West Earl's Pension Administrator.

Cyclocross- Roland Park

Received copy of insurance from Mark Branle of Lititz Bike Works for the Cyclocross Kids Program at the Roland Park in August.

Historical Signs

There was a brief discussion regarding historical signs. It was suggested that the guideline of Warwick to Ephrata Rail Trail be considered for the Borough. It was decided not to pursue at this time.

New Business

Ephrata Area School Resource Officer and Ephrata Public Library submitted quarterly reports to Borough Council and Mayor.

Akron Comprehensive Implementation Committee Chairperson, Denise Auker met with Sue Davidson and Sean Molchany to give an update of the progress of the committee. This committee would like to conduct a survey/observation of the Akron Parks for recording park usage. The goal is to provide data for decision making regarding the Akron Borough Parks. This observation/survey will take place the week of August 10-15, 2021.

Nuisance Ordinance

Sean Molchany forwarded to Council and Mayor a draft of a Nuisance Ordinance and asked that comments be sent back to him before the next meeting. This item will be on the August 9, 2021 agenda.

Mayor McBeth brought up the brake retarders noise and what can we do about this. The Borough Manager mentioned this issue has been brought up a few times. Council mentioned this issue can be included in the noise ordinance.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Justin Gehman seconded the motion.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson
Borough Manager/Secretary

SD