

BOROUGH OF AKRON COUNCIL MEETING- MARCH 28, 2022

**Council Members present-** Nathan Imhoff, President; Justin Gehman, Vice-President; Kleon Zimmerman, Paul Swangren, Jr, Ryan Cochran, Bonnie Young. (Randall Justice not present)

**Others Present-** Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Sean Molchany, Assistant Borough Manager; West Earl Police Chief Eric Higgins, George Wolf, John D. Taylor, Katrina Zimmerman, Larry Alexander, Ephrata Review; Megan Thompson, Herbein & Co.; Colburn McEllhenney, Kevin Wolford, Jeff Shirk, Ryan Myers.

**Roll Call**

Kleon Zimmerman-Present  
Paul Swangren, Jr.- Present  
Randall Justice-Not Present  
Ryan Cochran- Present  
Bonnie Young-Present  
Justin Gehman, Vice-President-Present  
Nathan Imhoff-Present  
Mayor John McBeth-Present

Meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes**

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to approve the March 14, 2022 Borough of Akron Council meeting minutes. Ryan Cochran seconded the motion. Kleon Zimmerman mentioned that on page eight of the minutes does not have an animal shelter ordinance but has a wildlife removal prohibition ordinance. Motion carried but not unanimous.

## ***Visitors***

### **Hanover Engineering**

Bob Lynn from Hanover Engineering was present to answer questions in regard to the Wolf Tract punch list. Paul Swangren, Jr. stated there were three different review letters January 12, 2022, February 10, 2022 and February 25, 2022 from Hanover Engineering in regards to the Wolf Tract and there were a lot of punch list items. Bob Lynn mentioned that big issue was the pipe elevation and there was an error in calculation by the surveyor and this issue has been corrected. The pond is now infiltrating the wetlands not planted yet and would be okay to use grass and the clay liner is still infiltrating and not worried about sinkholes.

Kleon Zimmerman questions the February 10, 2022 letter page 2, item #3 about the invert and to make sure there is money to make the correction and will probably have to reset the pipe.

Paul Swangren, Jr. stated that the 2% crown for the road needs to be verified. Nathan Imhoff mentioned there are a few items of concern to Council and to make sure we get clarification on these issues.

Bob Lynn mentioned that the improvements guarantee was calculated over 12 years ago and Paul Swangren, Jr. stated that the project should be done correctly.

Sean Molchany mentioned the Borough should not accept dedication, but this would be the first step towards it.

Nathan Imhoff mentioned his concern with the 2% grade on the road and \$25,000.00 would not cover that expense. Bob Lynn stated that certain areas might not be 2% but for the most part the road is 2% and water gets to the curb lines and is not aware of any standing water except in the inlet pipe. Council thanked Bob Lynn for attending the meeting.

The Wolf Tract matter will be discussed later in the meeting.

## **Akron Lions Club**

Kevin Wolford from the Akron Lions Club thanked Council for their service. Kevin mentioned there has been conversations in the Borough about Akron Borough not helping the Lions Club. Nathan Imhoff mentioned that at Ephrata Fair time there is an insurance liability of moving the trailer with our truck and the public works employees dropping off potatoes for the fair. Paul Swangren, Jr, stated we need to follow up on the insurance liability policy.

Nathan Imhoff asked what is the purpose of the Lions Club. Kevin Wolford stated that the Akron Lions club started in 1938 and their purpose is “We Serve”. The Akron Lions Club always had a good relationship with the Borough. The Lions Club has built pavilions, gazebos, ballfields and other projects. The annual Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled in the Roland Park in April and will get the information to the Borough Office. June 11, 2022 is the Akron Day in the Park. Akron Lions also works with the Ephrata Area Social Services around the holidays. Wolford also mentioned that we could not do the Ephrata Fair without the Borough’s help. The Akron Lions Club donates to many local organizations and the biggest fundraiser is the Ephrata Fair.

Bonnie Young mentioned that she would do publicity on the different Lions Club events. At this time Kevin Wolford distributed information on the Akron Lions Club.

Nathan Imhoff mentioned that the Akron Lions Club can help with Borough projects and wants to make sure we are not asking too much and we want to make sure you are helping others.

It was mentioned that the Lions Club helped with the swing sets at the Roland Park and here is an ADA issue for access and that is where we are with that project.

Paul Swangren, Jr. mentioned that communication is important. When we do our budget, buildings that the Akron Lions Club built need to be maintained and that is what we are struggling with now and any input or donations you can make

would be helpful and this communication should keep going. It's not a handshake agreement anymore, we can work it out and let's get these things done.

Lions Club will reach out to the Borough Manager about liability insurance for the Easter Egg Hunt.

Paul Swangren, Jr. mentioned we want to track the time we take to do things for the Lions Club.

Council and Mayor thanked the Lions Club. The Easter Egg Hunt is April 16, 2022 at the Roland Park. The West Earl Twp Police Department was contacted about the Easter Egg Hunt.

***2021 Annual Audit***

Megan Thompson from Herbein & Co. reviewed the 2021 Audit results and the Department of Community Development Report. It was a clean audit opinion and no findings.

***Police Report***

West Earl Twp Police Officer Mitchell Rogers mentioned that he did not have a lot to report (Police Chief Higgins had submitted his monthly report earlier to Council and Mayor). Officer Rogers mentioned that the next Police Liaison meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 2022 at 6 p.m. at the Akron Borough Municipal Office.

Officer Rogers mentioned that the Police Officers now have body cameras.

***Mayor Report***

Nothing to report at this time.

***Borough Manager's Report***

Nothing to report at this time

### ***Community Relations Report***

Bonnie Young mentioned that the Ephrata National Bank will not be sponsor the Concerts in the Park, but Randall Justice law firm will be sponsoring the concerts this year.

Bonnie wrote a public relations article on Disc Golf and sent the story to the Lancaster Newspapers and the Ephrata Shopping News. Bonnie also mentioned that she will do a different story every month. The April article will be the Akron Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt and the May article will be about the Akron Lions Club annual Akron Day in the Park that takes place the second Saturday in June.

Bonnie Young mentioned working on a town motto and then getting the Akron community to give us ideas on a logo. Nathan Imhoff liked the idea and we will put this into the next Borough newsletter. Ryan Cochran suggested looking at the Comprehensive Plan vision statement.

### ***Parks & Property Committee***

Randall Justice not present

Nothing to report

### ***Personnel Committee***

Paul Swangren, Jr. mentioned there was a Personnel Committee. A note taker position was advertised and two applicants for the Public Works Supervisor were interviewed and still looking and evaluating.

Paul also mentioned that the substitute crossing guard that was recently hired is being trained. The summer help from last year is coming back again this year and maybe hiring another summer employee. Justin Gehman suggested checking with the Vo-Tech Schools on part-time summer help.

### ***Streets Committee***

Justin Gehman mentioned people need to move their cars during street sweeping. In the future (not this year) can we enforce no parking for street sweeping. Staff will reach out the West Earl Police and also will have to post streets.

***Public Utilities Committee***

Kleon Zimmerman mentioned that staff attended an IMG meeting on March 22, 2022 and still reviewing the information.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to approve the spending of \$48,650.00 for 215 Kampstrup meters to be spent out of the sewer fund to complete the consumption meter project. Kleon seconded the motion.

Bonnie Young- Yes

Ryan Cochran-Yes

Kleon Zimmerman- Yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.- Yes

Justin Gehman- Yes

Nathan Imhoff-Yess

Motion carried unanimously.

***Animal Shelter***

Sean Molchany mentioned that the Borough Solicitor will provide their recommendation to this request and will have on the April 11, 2022 agenda.

***Ephrata National Bank***

At this time Nathan Imhoff, President of Council turned the meeting over to Justin Gehman, Vice President. Ryan Cochran made a motion to approve the \$300,000. 00 revolving line of credit with the interest rate at the WSJ Prime and no floor. Paul Swangren, Jr. seconded the motion. Kleon Zimmerman asked do we need both lines of credit (\$300,000.00 line of credit and the \$400,000.00 Equipment line of credit). Ryan Cochran mentioned we should have both in case we need both.

Bonnie Young-Yes

Kleon Zimmerman-Yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.-Yes

Ryan Cochran-Yes

Justin Gehman-Yes

Natham Imhoff abstained due to a conflict of interest

Motion carried.

Ryan Cochran made a motion to approve the \$400,000.00 equipment line of credit with the interest rate WSJ Prime and no floor. Kleon Zimmerman seconded the motion. Ryan recommended both lines of credit and if we had to borrow for a vehicle it's already approved, and it would be a day commitment. Paul Swangren, Jr. felt that one loan is sufficient.

Bonnie Young-No

Kleon Zimmerman-No

Paul Swangren, Jr.-No

Ryan Cochran- Yes

Justin Gehman -No

Nathan Imhoff abstained due to a conflict of interest.

Motion did not carry.

### ***Manor Ridge/Edgehill Drive***

A curb and sidewalk inspection program was distributed proposing how the Borough would replace curb and sidewalk. Sean Molchany is meeting with C.S. Davidson and they will get comments to staff so a final draft can be submitted at the next Council meeting.

The Borough Solicitor had no problem with allowing curb and sidewalk to be part of the bid package. Rolled curbing should be part of the roadway design.

### ***Wolf Tract***

Ryan Cochran asked what the Borough's legal obligation is in considering this request. The legal obligation based on the cost opinion at the time of approval and the opportunity to secure 110% of the required improvements.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to approve the February 25, 2022 Hanover Engineering letter to release the escrow for the Wolf Tract and to hold 10% in accordance with the February 10, 2022 Hanover letter and hold \$25,708.50 for financial security.

Kleon Zimmerman seconded the motion.

Ryan Cochran mentioned that if he was the developer, he would question okaying the February 10, 2022 Hanover Engineering letter not the February 25, 2022 and not comfortable with the full release on the February 25, 2022 Hanover Engineering letter.

Paul Swangren, Jr. amended the motion to say the February 25, 2022 Hanover Engineering letter does not reflect what the engineer stated on the retainage. Kleon Zimmerman seconded the amended motion.

Bonnie Young-Yes

Ryan Cochran-Yes

Kleon Zimmerman-Yes

Paul Swangren, Jr.-Yes

Justin Gehman-Yes

Nathan Imhoff-Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

### ***Park House Rental***

Staff emailed pictures of the park house to Council and Mayor. Justin Gehman suggested staff get a punch list and an estimated cost to bring the house up to an acceptable condition. Mayor McBeth asked what do the tenants pay for oil each year and suggested we get someone who values rental properties for a living. Nathan told the Mayor we went through this at budget time and did get a rental rate based on 2021 numbers for Lancaster County. Kleon Zimmerman mentioned it would probably cost about \$60,000.00 to bring it up to an acceptable condition.

Justin Gehman made a motion to increase the rental for the park house to \$1,050.00 beginning June 2022. Ryan Cochran seconded the motion. Motion carried. Staff will send a letter to the tenants in regard to the increase rental date change.

### ***Park Pavilions and Bathrooms***

Sean Molchany mentioned that the work at the Roland Park was completed last Thursday. Fixed wiring in pavilions and basketball court, cleaned up, re-lamped lights to LED including tennis courts and put a push button timer switch for the lights at the tennis courts.



Nathan Imhoff proposed that we update the chain pieces in the Akron Pines Playground that kids climb across. Sean Molchany mentioned replacement would be at a premium but will look at prices.

Sean Molchany got additional estimates on roofing. Asphalt was more expensive than metal and would have to replace the plywood sheets.

The metal roof for Pavilion 1 would be \$12,369.90 and the bathroom would be \$4,603.94.

Sean will e-mail this information to the Akron Lions Club and see if they would help with any of this work.

The volleyball court at Roland Park will be discussed with the Parks Committee.

The Rail Trail sign will be on the agenda for the next Council meeting.

***New Business***

Ryan Cochran made a motion to approve the WalkWorks Grant for \$10,000.00 for sidewalks and a digitized map of where sidewalk facilities that exist in the Borough. This is not a matching grant. Justin Gehman seconded the motion. Motion carried but not unanimous. Paul Swangren, Jr. and Kleon Zimmerman voted no.

Paul Swangren, Jr. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kleon Zimmerman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Davidson  
Akron Borough Manager/Secretary

SD

