

1 **Borough of Akron Council Meeting-January 9, 2023**

2

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

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6 **Others Present:** Mayor John McBeth, Susan Davidson, Borough Manager; Sean Molchany,
7 Assistant Borough Manager; Suzanne Lausch, Minute Taker

8 **Visitors:** Eric Higgins West Earl PD

9 Tom Burnett 724 Fulton St Akron

10 Katrina Zimmerman 429 S. 9th St Akron

11 John Taylor 216 S. 8th St Akron

12 Sue Glick 119 S. 10th St. Akron

13 Mike Morris Miller Rd. Akron

14

15 **Roll Call**

16 Kleon Zimmerman-present

17 Paul Swangren, Jr-present

18 Randall Justice-absent

19 Ryan Cochran-present

20 Bonnie Young-absent

21 Nathan Imhoff-present

22 Justin Gehman-present

23 Mayor John McBeth-present

24

25 Meeting opened at 6:30pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

26

27 **Approval of Minutes**

28 Motion to approve minutes for December 12, 2022 by Paul Swangren, Jr second by Justin
29 Gehman.

30 Mayor questioned page 6-line 17 error on General Fund Budget number

31 Mayor McBeth requested that Page 6-line 38 be updated to read, “a budget is a roadmap, not
32 the road”.

33 Mayor McBeth also Page 6-line 41 regarding the budget for a new finance person and whether
34 or not insurance, social security etc. was included and Sue’s reply was that it was not included.

35 Kleon Zimmerman page 6 update to Concerns with Northern Hub as he thinks the library does
36 not get enough rent for the building which creates a liability.

37 Sewer fund page 7 line 23-caveat for finance position should be added to sewer fund budget.

38 Highway aid fund needs numbers added

39 Paul Swangren, Jr questioned page 6 lines 30-35 related to a question he brought up regarding
40 non-personnel finances by library that was not presented to the council. Library staff refused
41 to disclose non-personnel finances to the council.

42 Nathan Imhoff suggested tabling minutes due to the number of edits. He requested that council
43 members send edits for minutes prior to coming to council meetings in order to efficiently
44 facilitate approval of minutes.

1 Paul Swangren, Jr made a motion to rescind minute approval until edits have been made as
2 requested by council members; second by Justin Gehman. The December 12, 2022 will be
3 revisited at next meeting for approval.

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5 ***Visitors/Comments from Public***

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7 **Zoom-no one on zoom meeting**

8

9 **Katrina Zimmerman** gave update on tree lighting. Really good turnout and thanks to West Earl
10 Police Department and to Akron Volunteer Fire Department for their participation in the event.
11 Katrina noted that each child took home some North Pole snow and reindeer food. She shared
12 that all wreaths are paid off and that she would like to order 16 more wreaths. Nathan Imhoff
13 noted that the Borough Council does not finance any of the tree lighting expenses but does
14 support the event. All costs are from community donations to the event.

15 **John Taylor**-heard a rumor that a park bench was set on fire. The Borough Manager mentioned
16 she is not aware of this happening in Akron. West Earl Police Chief mentioned he will try to get
17 information on this.

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19 **Bills**

20 Ryan Cochran motion to approve disbursements for December 2022 and Kleon Zimmerman
21 seconded
22 Motion carried

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24 **Reports/Announcements**

25

26 **Police Report**

27 **Chief Higgins**- shared that the police are going to store the speed board inside for the winter to
28 prevent damage. The West Earl Police Report for December 2022 was distributed to Council
29 and Mayor. Chief Higgins shared that the Police Department is attempting to plan for events in
30 the community in which the officers participate for the year.

31

32 **Mayor Report-**

33 **John McBeth**-offered thanks to police for their service. He commented on New Year's Eve
34 saying that the weather was damp but over 100 residents attended the event. He also said that
35 they may be looking for a new chairman for next year's New Year Event. Disc Jockey at the
36 event was great. He said that the donations from the community is building up a nice fund for
37 the future. He recommended that perhaps a plan for inclement weather on New Year's Eve
38 should be included when planning this event.

39 The Mayor offered some budget suggestions-He said that the responsibility for finances is up to
40 the seven elected council members. He recommends that at the beginning of each quarter each
41 council member gets finance report related to the budget to give good overview of the finances
42 of the Borough.

43 Also recommends any budget not needed for day to day running of Borough should come
44 before Council. Several council members asked for specific examples of what the mayor had in

1 mind for those budget expenses. John McBeth shared a picture of the sidewalk in front of a
2 public building and expressed concerned about liability due to damaged sidewalk. Nathan
3 Imhoff asked the Mayor to provided information such as this in a timelier fashion. John McBeth
4 also expressed concern about building expenses and Sean Molchany shared that the original
5 budget for building started at \$70,000 but was pared down to \$55,000.
6 Mayor assumed that everyone in Borough knew sidewalks were damaged and should be
7 repaired. Mayor was also concerned about no line item in the budget for items. Sean Molchany
8 told the mayor that all Council members had received this information.
9 Ryan asked the Mayor what additional information he would like from the finance team other
10 than the current information. The Borough Manager shared that she used to distribute a
11 monthly report on the finances and was told not continue that practice as council members do
12 not review it.
13 Mayor would like quarterly report on finances. Nathan Imhoff asked Sue to send out her
14 Monthly finance report to each council member.
15 Both Susan Davidson and Sean Molchany said that the mayor could ask at any time to see the
16 finances.

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18 **Borough Managers Report**

19 **Administration and Finance**-December 2022 month-end financials have been reconciled and
20 January 2023 payables will be reviewed by the Finance Committee

21 The 2023 Council meetings have been advertised.

22 2022 financials have been closed out and 2023 information is being processed.

23 Herebin & Company will begin the annual audit the week of January 23, 2023. Preparing for the
24 annual audit and workman's comp audit. W-2 information and 1099 reporting will be finished
25 by the end of this week, beginning of next week. Continuation of filing DCED yearend reports,
26 PennDot year end reports, pension reports etc.

27 Ethics forms will be mailed out to Council and other committee members etc. next week and
28 are due back to Borough secretary by May 1, 2023.

29 **Parks & Property**

30 Staff received a request from a running group to do a small 5K/10K run at Lloyd Roland
31 Memorial Park every Saturday from April thru December. Staff will contact the representative
32 of this group and get more information for the next Council meeting.

33 **Streets**

34 The bid for the 2023 street project to advertise is on the January 9, 2023 agenda
35 Dedication process for Westview Dr. is continuing. Managers have been in contact with PPL
36 about street lights (waiting for work order) and C.S. Davidson is reviewing the as built plans for
37 the street dedication and this item will be on the January 23, 2023 agenda.

38 **Public Utilities**

39 PW department continues to install meters and this project should be completed by the end of
40 the first quarter 2023. Staff will begin to read meters the week of January 9, 2023 for bills going
41 out in February.

42 **Community Relations**

43 The Annual New Year's Shoe drop was not as well attended due to inclement weather. There
44 was a crowd at approximately 11pm to see the Shoe drop. State Representative Keith Greiner

1 was at the Shoe -In Event and spoke briefly to the crowd and wished everyone a Happy New
2 Year.

3 **Planning & Zoning**

4 The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2, 2023 at which
5 time the zoning updates will be reviewed.

6 No Zoning Hearings scheduled at this time.

7 The overnight parking ordinance will be on the agenda for the January 23, 2023 meeting for
8 Council's approval.

9

10 **Administration & Finance**

11 Ryan Cochran read into the minutes the December 31, 2022 month-end balances

**December 31,
2022**

General Fund	\$25,061.76
Water Fund	\$33,385.24
Sewer Fund	\$147,984.53
Highway Aid	\$137,717.15

General Fund Reserves

Restricted	\$158,000.00
Operating	\$169,001.08
Capital	\$436,801.27
Total	\$763,802.35

General Fund Reserves

Restricted (Goal)	\$144,363.00
Total	\$144,363.00

Water Fund Reserves

Restricted	\$72,992.00
Operating	\$241,537.35
Capital	\$0.00
Total	\$314,529.35

Sewer Fund Reserves

Restricted	\$121,822.00
Operating	\$316,247.48
Capital	\$0.00
Total	\$438,069.48

Capital Projects **\$401.59**

Community Fund **\$2,424.12**

Total \$1,863,375.57

Escrow \$6,093.97

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Parks & Property

Staff received a request from a running group to do a small 5K/10K run at Lloyd Roland Memorial Park every Saturday from April thru December. Council members expressed logistics concerns about this request. Davidson will continue to look into this request and get specifics to share with Council members.

Streets

Street bid mentioned in Borough Manager’s report.

Public Utilities

Nathan Imhoff expressed curiosity about the length of time it will take to read the water meters now that the meters have been installed. Sean Molchany thought perhaps a day or two.

Community Relations-nothing to report

Personnel Report-

Paul Swangren, Jr. met with the Borough Manager for yearly review. Personnel Meeting on January 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

Streets Report

Nothing to report

Public Utilities Report-

No report. Discussion regarding the sewer flow report and how this will reflect why it is necessary to keep up on repairs. Normal flow is approximately 250, 000 gallons and has gone as high as 681,000 gallons after one rain and 870,000 gallons after another rain and did drop quickly after rains. Discussion at what flows a penalty would be assessed.

Old Business

Overnight parking Ordinance is being advertised and will be on the January 23, 2023 agenda for Council’s approval.

New Business

1 Council Committees-Borough Managers suggested that it would be beneficial for the Planning
2 and Zoning to report back to the entire Council. Recommendation to rename Ryan Cochran's
3 committee to Finance, Planning and Zoning committee. Nathan Imhoff, President agreed and
4 the recommendation was approved. No motion necessary for this change as it is under the
5 responsibilities of the Council President.

6 Roland Park 5K Races-concerns related to logistics for races due to accommodations related to
7 parking, clean up, and planning. Sean Molchany mentioned our Parks are not suitable for these
8 types of events. Susan Davidson will call the organization for additional details.

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10 **Motions and Decisions**

11 Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project bid

12 Kleon Zimmerman made a motion to award bid to low bid by Ankiewicz Enterprises, Inc.,
13 Tamaqua PA 18252 in the amount of \$523,243.00. Motion second by Ryan Cochran.

14 **Other bids for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement**

15 Joao & Bradley Construction, Inc. , Bethlehem PA - \$535,735.00

16 Anrich, Inc., Wayne PA 19087 - \$584,544.00

17 Kinsley Construction, York PA 17403 - \$692,384.14

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19 Discussion-Paul Swangren, Jr. concerned about budget for this project and over budget of
20 \$53,000. Discussion on how managers are planning on funding this project with current monies.
21 Ephrata penalties for reconciliation are being considered for the I & I work. Also concerned
22 about contingency monies for this project and whether any monies are designated. Sean
23 Molchany shared there is no contingency fund for this project.

24 Ryan Cochran has question about maintenance and protection of traffic. If not needed based on
25 what they are doing Borough can get credit if not needed.

26 Ryan what is a bonding requirement for a smaller company? The company does have to be
27 bonded. Sean has no specific information, but Ryan can read bid information. Sean will contact
28 C.S. Davidson and they will notify company and Sean will set up a meeting. Police Chief Higgins
29 asked to be involved in pre-project meeting.

30 Motion carried.

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32 **Adjournment** -motion by Paul Swangren, Jr at 7:50 with second by Justin Gehman

33 Motion carried.

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35 Respectfully submitted,

36 Susan Davidson

37 Borough Manager/Secretary

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39 SD

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