

1 **Borough of Akron Council Meeting-May 13, 2024**

2

3 **Council Members Present:** Nathan Imhoff-President, Justin Gehman-Vice President; Kleon  
4 Zimmerman, Paul Swangren, Jr., Ryan Cochran, Bonnie Young, Tonya Haynes, Max Herman-  
5 Junior Council Member, Rebecca Abraham-Junior Council Member; Earianne Evangelista-Junior  
6 Council Member

7

8 **Others Present:** Mayor John McBeth; Sean Molchany, Borough Manager; Susan Davidson, Asst  
9 Borough Manager; Valerie Wagner, Director of Finance; Suzanne Lausch, Minute Taker

10

11 **Visitors:**

12 John Taylor, 216 S 8<sup>th</sup> St Akron  
13 Sue Glick 119 S. 10<sup>th</sup> St Akron  
14 Chief Eric Higgins, West Earl Police Dept  
15 Aaron Murray, Akron Fire Company  
16 Leslie Myers 11 East End Avenue, Akron  
17 Monica Hersh 491 S. 9<sup>th</sup> St Akron  
18 Donald Reese, 17 Miller Rd Akron  
19 Anthony Sheaffer, 110 Main St Akron  
20 Donald Good, 206 Main St Akron  
21 Derek Wanner, Zoom

22

23 **Roll Call**

24 Kleon Zimmerman-present  
25 Paul Swangren, Jr-present  
26 Ryan Cochran-present  
27 Bonnie Young-present  
28 Tonya Haynes-present  
29 Justin Gehman Vice President-present  
30 Nathan Imhoff President-present  
31 Mayor John McBeth-present  
32 Earianne Evangelista-Junior Council Member-present  
33 Rebecca Abraham-Junior Council Member-present  
34 Max Herman-Junior Council Member-present

35

36 Meeting opened at 6:32 with the Pledge of Allegiance.

37

38 **Approval of Minutes**

39 Motion to approve Borough of Akron Council Meeting minutes for April 22, 2024 by Paul  
40 Swangren, Jr; second by Ryan Cochran

41 Discussion: none

42 Motion approved

43 **Recognition of Junior Council Members**

1 Justin Gehman, Council Vice-President recognized the Junior Council Members for their service  
2 this year at Akron Borough Council meetings: Rebecca Abraham, Earianne Evangelista and Max  
3 Herman

4 Cake reception followed the meeting in honor of the Junior Council members.

5

### 6 **Visitors/Comments from Public**

7 Derek Wanner on Zoom

8 Akron resident Donald Reese wondered about property management for high grass etc. and  
9 mentioned that his neighbor has very high grass. Sean Molchany, Borough Manager, drives the  
10 roads and reviews Akron resident properties. Sean said they have been sent letters in the past  
11 but not this year as of yet. Sean will look into it.

12 Anthony Sheaffer questioned out of date ordinances related to chicken coops in Akron  
13 Borough. He received a letter saying he is not in compliance for chicken coops. Borough staff  
14 received a complaint of chickens running around Borough. Sean Molchany sent zoning violation  
15 letter to Anthony with suggestions for compliance. Discussion on chickens in Akron Borough  
16 and chicken coops and Akron Borough Ordinances regarding zoning for chicken coops. Anthony  
17 felt that the requirements are not clear on the Borough website. Zoning Hearing Board would  
18 review the ordinance if Anthony wants to see a change. Ordinances are historically updated on  
19 the interactive eCode360 portion of the Borough website once a year.

20 Donald Good asked about the sidewalk ordinances and why not all streets are required to have  
21 sidewalks. When roadway is repaired then the Borough enforces the sidewalk requirement  
22 ordinance.

23 Leslie Meyers from East End Avenue had two requests for Council: the new street lamps on her  
24 street light up her home “like a convenience store”, she is asking to strip back the LED in front  
25 of her house; on East End Avenue cars turning right from Main St. are a safety traffic concern.  
26 No sidewalks are on this street.

27 Another resident asked about Ninth St speeding as well.

28 Paul Swangren, Jr. commented that staff call PPL to turn down the lights or request a shield,  
29 and regarding the intersection, could staff contact LTAP to review and study the area.

30 Chief Higgins will contact Sean Molchany to put the speed sign in the area of concern.

### 31 **Bills**

32 Ryan Cochran moved to approve the May 2024 Borough of Akron disbursements and fund the  
33 appropriate account for the disbursements as reviewed by the Finance committee. Second by  
34 Kleon Zimmerman

35 Motion carried

### 36 **Reports/Announcements**

#### 37 **Police**

38 April report will be sent by Chief Higgins

39 New officer Alex Reed for WEPD

#### 40 **Mayor Report**

41 Eagle Scout Award Certificates-last meeting of Troop #57 held last Saturday; the too few  
42 members were left to maintain the charter. Akron’s Troop #57 had been in existence for 80+  
43 years – their sponsor was the Akron Lions Club. 18 Former Eagle Scouts were at the meeting.

44 National Night Out Road Closure Letter

1 School Resource Officer Report-Every 15 Minutes program was held at Ephrata High School  
2 County Mayor's meeting was at Denver Borough and they are serviced by East Cocalico Police  
3 Department. Discussion was about Lancaster County issues in this area. Human trafficking: 90%  
4 of the motels are involved in human trafficking. Mayor asked Chief Higgins if this was accurate.  
5 Chief Higgins offered to look into this information. North East Detective meetings currently  
6 happening. Denver Borough manager discussed money saving opportunities.

7 **Manager's Report**

8 *Administration & Finance*

9 April 2024 month-end financials have been reconciled.

10 May 2024 payables will be reviewed by Finance Committee.

11 *Parks & Property*

12 Colonial Park ribbon cutting took place on Saturday, April 27, 2024. Employees and  
13 representatives from Rosenberger were present along with Council members and staff. Thanks  
14 to Tonya Haynes and Rebecca Abraham for coordinating this event.

15 Stream Embankment/Rain Garden update at Roland Park-plans have been submitted to the  
16 state for permitting. Staff continues to meet with the Borough engineer to review the next  
17 steps as they move forward with the project. Authorization bid will be discussed in Council  
18 meeting.

19 *Streets*

20 None

21 *Public Utilities*

22 Sewer flow numbers are down and Borough will be out of penalty.

23 Staff continues to pull manholes after heavy rains to identify I&I problems.

24 Stand pipe and Roland Park update will be discussed in Council meeting

25 Water/Sewer bills will be mailed the week of May 13, 2024.

26 *Community Relations*

27 None

28 *Planning & Zoning*

29 Planning Commission meeting scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to review W  
30 Donuts lot add-on plan.

31 *Personnel*

32 Staff reached out to Randy Gockley regarding the Emergency Management Plan. Gockley  
33 forwarded a draft of the plan. A second draft review and comments have been forwarded to  
34 Randy Gockley.

35 *Other Business*

36 A liaison meeting took place on Wednesday, April 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the Akron Borough  
37 Office. Akron Borough Council, Mayor, Borough Staff and representatives from West Earl  
38 discussed topics related to Police matters between Akron Borough and West Earl. Staff noted  
39 that the Police contract is up at the end of 2025 but it is not too soon to start contract  
40 discussions.

41 Liaison meetings are scheduled two times a year with alternating meetings between West Earl  
42 Township and Akron Borough. The next meeting is scheduled for September, 11, 2024 at 6:00  
43 p.m. at the West Earl Township building. Meeting minutes are in the Council books.

1 Staff from West Earl and Akron Borough met on May 6, 2024 to discuss the plan for the 2024  
2 National Night Out Event scheduled for August 6, 2024 at Broad St. Park.  
3 Ambulance report was sent via e-mail per Council's request.  
4 Nathan Imhoff asked about the crossing guards and Sean Molchany requesting school district to  
5 take over responsibility for crossing guards. Discussion on options by council members.  
6 Paul Swangren, Jr asked about getting a committee formed regarding the police agreement that  
7 expires at the end of 2025; Susan Davidson volunteered to be on the committee because she  
8 had been part of the negotiations a few years ago.

9 *Board Vacancies*

10 Building Code Appeals Board

11 Vacancy Board

12 **Finance**-reviewed by Ryan Cochran

13 Fund balances April 30,2024

14 <b>General Fund</b> -\$32,581.09	<b>General Fund Reserves</b>
15 <b>Water Fund</b> -\$2,204.74	Restricted (Goal) \$144,363.00
16 <b>Sewer Fund</b> -\$49,257.20	Total-\$144,363.00

17 **Highway Aid**-\$178,375.62

18 **General Fund Reserves**

19 Restricted-\$58,000.00

20 Operating-\$69,569.37

21 Capital-\$111,589.46

22 Total-\$239,158.83

23 **Water Fund Reserves**

24 Restricted-\$72,992.00

25 Operating-\$170,683.36

26 Capital-\$0.00

27 Total-\$243,675.36

28 **Sewer Fund Reserves**

29 Restricted-\$121,822.00

30 Operating-\$114,611.81

31 Capital-\$0.00

32 Total-\$236,433.81

33 **Capital Projects**-\$1,976.85

34 **Community Fund**-\$1703.59

35 **Non-Uniform Pension**-\$3,764.64

36 **Total**-\$989,131.73

37 **Escrow**-\$6,512.50

38 **Community Relations**

39 Bonnie Young wrote an article on Movie Night at Broad St Park, "Mom's Night Out" on May 17,  
40 2024 at dusk. Popcorn and candy available. Bonnie will write article on the summer concerts.

41 **Parks & Property**

42 Ribbon cutting at Colonial Park for the new pavilion with several Rosenberg employees in  
43 attendance took place on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

44 Council Members commented on the donations from Rosenberger throughout the years.

1 **Junior Council Members Report**

2 Max Herman reported on the “Every 15 Minutes” simulation event at the Ephrata High School.

3 Max described his contribution as an accident “victim”.

4 Rebecca Abraham will be speaking at commencement and invited Council Members to attend.

5 Max requested to stay on Junior Council throughout the summer

6 Paul Swangren, Jr. thanked the Junior Council members for their participation this past year.

7 Earianne Evangelista will be attending Moravian University as a biology major.

8 Rebecca Abraham will be attending University of Pennsylvania as a pre-med major with a  
9 concentration in neuroscience.

10 **Personnel Report**

11 Emergency Management Coordinator Appointment

12 Paul Swangren, Jr. is suggesting advertising for the Emergency Management Coordinator  
13 position for one month.

14 Several people have been identified as possibilities for the position.

15 **Streets Report**

16 Discussion: Tonya Haynes asked about the water break on Oak St. and what the plan is for  
17 paving. Sean Molchany said that the paving is scheduled for Wednesday subject to the  
18 contractor not backing out.

19 **Public Utilities Report-**

20 Sewer flows are down and out of penalty.

21 Discussion for the replacement of the Standpipe tank

22 **Public Hearings/Presentations/Appointments**

23 **Old Business**

24 **New Business**

25 **A. Resolutions**

26 **B. Ordinances**

27 **C. Motions and Decisions**

28 a. Standpipe Update/Intech Engineering Proposal

29 i. Kleon Zimmerman moved to approve the proposal for the Borough of  
30 Akron-Water System-Evaluation of Repair vs. Replacement of the  
31 80,000-gallon Standpipe Tank in an amount not to exceed \$9,000.00  
32 second by Justin Gehman; discussion of options available; motion  
33 carried

34 b. Authorization to advertise bid proposals for the Roland Park Water Resources  
35 Restoration Plan

36 i. Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to authorize the Akron Borough Staff to  
37 coordinate the Advertisement of the bid proposals for the Roland  
38 Park Water Resources Restoration Project; second by Tonya Haynes;  
39 motion carried

40 **D. Acknowledgments**

41 **E. Other Business/Deliberations**

42 a. Second meeting of May will be cancelled due to the holiday and the next  
43 meeting would be June 10, 2024.

44 **F. Correspondence and Petitions**

- 1 a. Ephrata Public Library 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2024 Report
- 2 i. Council may read at their discretion

3 **G. Executive Session**

4 **Executive Session**

5 **Additional Comment:**

6

7 **Adjournment** -Motion to adjourn at 8:05 by Paul Swangren, Jr.; second by Tonya Haynes

8 Motion carried