

1 **Borough of Akron Council Meeting – February 9, 2026**

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3 **Council Members Present:** Nathan Imhoff, President; Justin Gehman, Vice President; Paul Swangren, Jr.;
4 Ryan Cochran; Tracy Fisher; Kleon Zimmerman; Tonya Haynes

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6 **Others Present:** Mayor Susan Davidson; Sean Molchany, Borough Manager; Valerie Wagner, Director of
7 Finance

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9 **Visitors:**

10 Thomas Murray, Jr., Public Works Supervisor
11 Aaron Murray, AVFC
12 Dale Miller, AVFC
13 Nathan Shirk, AVFC
14 Andrew Smith, 127 N 11th St Akron
15 John Taylor, 218 S 8th St Akron
16 Anthony Sheaffer, 110 Main St Akron
17 Sue Glick, 119 S 10th St Akron
18 John McBeth, 410 Edgehill Rd Akron
19 Scott Jackson, 100 S 8th St Akron
20 Kenneth Redcay, 1212 Kramer Mill Rd Denver

21
22 **Roll Call**

23 Tracy Fisher – present
24 Tonya Haynes – present
25 Ryan Cochran – present
26 Paul Swangren, Jr. – present
27 Kleon Zimmerman – present
28 Justin Gehman, Vice President – present
29 Nathan Imhoff, President – present
30 Mayor Susan Davidson – present

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32 President Nathan Imhoff opened the meeting at 6:34pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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34 **Approval of Minutes**

35 Ryan Cochran made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 26, 2026 Akron Borough Council
36 meeting; second by Paul Swangren, Jr. No discussion, motion carried.

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38 **Visitors/Comments from the Public**

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40 **Bills**

41 Ryan Cochran moved to approve the February 2026 Borough of Akron disbursements and fund the
42 appropriate account for the disbursements as reviewed by the Finance Committee: General Fund
43 \$140,006.71, Water Fund \$16,415.16, Sewer Fund \$10,769.07, and Highway Aid \$70.20, totaling
44 \$167,261.14. Second by Kleon Zimmerman. No discussion, motion carried.

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46 **Reports/Announcements**

47 **Police Report**

48 January 2026 Police Report is in the Council books for review.

1 **Mayor's Report**

2 Mayor Davidson shared that the Emergency Declaration was lifted as discussed at the last meeting.
3 Mayor Davidson has met with the Borough Manager and will be meeting with the Police Chief monthly.
4 SRO Officer will be invited to the March 9, 2026 meeting. Introduction to Akron Elementary School
5 Principal.

6
7 **Manager's Report**

8 *Administration & Finance*

9 January 2026 month-end financials have been reconciled. February 2026 payables were reviewed by the
10 Finance Committee. The Borough audit, Non-Uniform Pension audit and Workers Comp audits have been
11 completed.

12
13 *Parks & Property*

14 Park House Draft Agreement has been forwarded to the Fire Company for review and comment. Council
15 was forwarded the Fire Company's response to the agreement and the siren issue. Staff met with Kinsley,
16 C.S. Davidson and Land Studies onsite to discuss the Borough's concerns with the rain gardens, plunge
17 pools, and plantings. Modifications were discussed to fix the issues and Kinsley is putting together a
18 scope of services to address the concerns. Parks and Property Committee should meet and discuss.

19
20 *Streets*

21 Diamond Street project award at the December meeting and the contract has been finalized. Notice to
22 Proceed date is April 15, 2026 and end of construction date is June 10, 2026.

23
24 *Public Utilities*

25 Updated Standpipe Proposal is in your packets for review and consideration. We have had two water
26 main breaks: one on 11th Street and one on New Street.

27
28 *Community Relations – No Report*

29 *Planning & Zoning – No Report*

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31 *Personnel*

32 We have started the process of replacing the vacancy position in Public Works. Staff will be conducting
33 interviews within the next two weeks.

34
35 *Other Business*

36 A monthly Public Works Activity Report is in your book.

37
38 *Board Vacancies*

39 Building Code Appeals Board

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41 **Finance** – Reviewed by Ryan Cochran

42 Ryan Cochran invited Director of Finance Valerie Wagner to speak regarding the combined fund structure
43 listed on the cash sheet. Wagner shared that after the 2024 Borough audit, the auditors had shared in
44 their report that best practice for financial reporting is to not separate reserve funds unless they are
45 designated for capital spending. This change had been discussed and approved by Finance Committee in
46 the spring of 2025 but had not been implemented until the end of the year. Valerie Wagner also
47 provided some brief education on how balance sheets are structured and how to read one. The Finance
48 Report with January 2026 balances will be discussed at the February 23, 2026 meeting.

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Community Relations – No Report

Tracy Fisher has met with Tonya Haynes regarding plans for a summer concert series and some fundraising ideas.

Parks & Property

Tonya Haynes shared some ideas for a 250th celebration of America’s founding. Proposed date is July 25th, August 15th as a rain date. Haynes also discussed the recent assessment report done by Leathers, Inc. on January 6, 2026. Each Council Member was provided a copy of the report. Tonya Haynes would like to organize sub-committees under the Playground Committee for the purposes of fundraising, construction, etc. Akron Pines Playground is unique in the fact that it is a wooden playground. Ryan Cochran made some suggestions, including ranking the order of importance of repair/replacement items listed in the assessment report. John Taylor asked if soliciting volunteer help for the playgrounds would be a liability on the Borough. Sean Molchany replied that a liability waiver could be completed; this was likely done when the Akron Pines Playground was first constructed. Scott Jackson commented that he appreciated the “buy in” years ago when the Akron Pines was built with the ability to have volunteers’ names listed on the playground equipment.

Kleon Zimmerman mentioned that there are several lights that have gone out around the playground. Sean Molchany replied that many years ago when the lights were installed, many of them did not have conduit and have been accidentally severed over the years. Molchany recommends having PP&L install/repair because all the maintenance responsibility is on PP&L, versus having the Borough do it and potentially save money upfront on the install, but would be responsible for all the maintenance labor and costs thereafter.

Personnel – No Report

Streets – No Report

Public Utilities

Kleon Zimmerman shared that the January 2026 water and sewer flows are in the books.

Public Hearings/Presentations/Appointments

Old Business

- A. **Park House Lease Agreement** – President Dale Miller shared an update regarding the Park House Lease: AVFC has been contemplating the potential tax burden, length of the lease term, etc. Tonya Haynes stated that the draft for the Park House Lease was shared with AVFC shortly after the Fire Hall Lease discussion began months ago; Haynes feels that the discussion has been ongoing, and perhaps the delays are not on AVFC, but rather the attorneys. Nathan Imhoff suggested AVFC provide more frequent updates even if they don’t have all the answers yet. Nathan Shirk asked if the Borough has plans for the Park House that they are waiting to move forward with if the AVFC chooses not to proceed. Ryan Cochran asked what AVFC had planned to do when they bid on a property on Main Street; Dale Miller explained that owning a property versus leasing a property to sublease is considerably different. Nathan Imhoff answered Nathan Shirk’s question regarding the Borough’s other plans: the Borough has not explored other opportunities out of respect to AVFC but would like to know if it will not work out, so as to have time to begin looking into other

1 opportunities. Dale Miller said that by the next Council meeting, the AVFC attorney will have
2 determined a proposed timeline of events.

- 3 **B. Akron Fire Department Siren** – President Dale Miller addressed the allegations that were in
4 the letter regarding AVFC “receiving no taxpayer funds”. Next Miller addressed the concerns
5 regarding the fire siren; he would like to have a discussion with Council to determine a
6 solution that both parties agree upon. Dale Miller agreed that many years ago, there was an
7 agreement in place to silence the siren overnight, but that it became an issue and was
8 reversed. Discussion followed regarding AVFC pagers and whether or not it was acceptable
9 practice for volunteer members to not use a company-issued pager to respond overnight,
10 preferring instead to listen for the siren. Tonya Hanyes referenced a meeting between Akron
11 Borough Council, Akron Borough staff, and AVFC members in which a call came in and every
12 AVFC member had a pager that went off. Nathan Shirk asked if this concern was an Akron
13 resident concern or an Akron Council concern; discussion followed. John McBeth shared that
14 when he hears the siren, he checks the Lancaster County Alerts website to see where the
15 incident is. Discussion followed regarding hearsay from residents that speak to elected
16 officials and if an anonymous statement made by a resident should be even considered.
17 President Dale Miller stated that at the next AVFC meeting on the first Tuesday in March, a
18 company vote will be taken regarding the silencing of the alarm overnight.

19 **New Business**

- 20 **A. Resolutions**
21 **B. Ordinances**
22 **C. Motions and Decisions**
23 **D. Acknowledgements**
24 **E. Other Business/Deliberations**

- 25 **1. Standpipe Proposal RK&K dated February 3, 2026** – Kleon Zimmerman shared that
26 the most recent proposal addresses the potential relocation of the standpipe to the
27 Broad Street Park, and this revision was also supposed to address whether or not it
28 would be feasible to rebuild one in the current location, however this report does
29 not mention that. In the report, it states that one of the largest concerns with the
30 removal of the standpipe is that the valve at the bottom would need to be replaced.
31 Zimmerman would like to see a new standpipe erected in the existing location if
32 possible since the valve will need to be replaced either way.

33 **F. Correspondence & Petitions**

- 34 **1. Ephrata Public Library** – The Library has invited Council to attend their escape room
35 to test it out. The 4th Quarter Report is in Council books.

36 **G. Executive Session**

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38 **Adjournment**

39 Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:12pm; second by Justin Gehman, motion carried.

40
41 Respectfully submitted,

42
43 Sean Molchany
44 Borough Manager/Secretary

45
46 SM/vw