

1 **Borough of Akron Council Meeting – February 23, 2026**

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

5

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

8

9 **Visitors:**

10 Thomas Murray, Jr., Public Works Supervisor

11 John Taylor, 218 S 8<sup>th</sup> St Akron

12 Sue Glick, 119 S 10<sup>th</sup> St Akron

13 Chief Eric Higgins, West Earl Police

14 John McBeth, 410 Edgehill Rd Akron

15 Anthony Sheaffer, 110 Main St Akron

16 Travis Mueller, Zoom

17 Kent Martin, Zoom

18

19 **Roll Call**

20 Tracy Fisher – present

21 Tonya Haynes – present

22 Ryan Cochran – present

23 Paul Swangren, Jr. – present

24 Kleon Zimmerman – present

25 Justin Gehman, Vice President – present

26 Nathan Imhoff, President – present

27 Mayor Susan Davidson – present

28

29 President Nathan Imhoff opened the meeting at 6:33pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

30

31 **Approval of Minutes**

32 Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026 Borough of Akron Council  
33 meeting; second by Ryan Cochran. No discussion, motion carried.

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35 **Visitors/Comments from the Public – None**

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37 **Bills – None**

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39 **Reports/Announcements**

40 **Police Report**

41 Chief Higgins shared that the speed sentry sign has been removed to be stored for the remainder of  
42 winter and for maintenance to be performed.

43

44 **Mayor's Report**

45 Mayor Davidson introduced herself to Akron Elementary School Principal Sheri Horner. At the next  
46 meeting, the School Resource Officer John Herneisen will be on the agenda as a visitor. Mayor Davidson  
47 and Chief Higgins have a meeting scheduled, and will have monthly meetings thereafter.

48

1 **Manager's Report – No Report**  
2 Nathan Imhoff asked about the water main break that was discovered today. Tom Murray, Jr. shared that  
3 a leak was discovered on Oak Street and was repaired the same day. Flows were down, but then went  
4 back up, indicating that there are likely more leaks to be found.

5  
6 **Finance – Reviewed by Ryan Cochran**  
7 Ryan Cochran recapped the recent meeting held with Megan Thompson of Cherry Bekaert, LLP, the  
8 Finance Committee, Treasurer Pam Musser, Borough Manager Sean Molchany, Director of Finance  
9 Valerie Wagner, and Mayor Davidson. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Auditor's  
10 recommendations to revisit the Borough's fund structure.

11  
12 Cash Allocations to Individual Funds January 31, 2026

13 **General Fund**

14 Operating Reserve\* - \$0.00 Operating\* (Goal) \$202,363.00  
15 Spending/Savings\*\* - \$48,503.47  
16 Total - \$48,503.47

17 **Water Fund**

18 Operating Reserve\* - \$72,992.00  
19 Spending/Savings\*\* - \$231,357.38  
20 Total - \$304,349.38

21 **Sewer Fund Reserves**

22 Operating Reserve\* - \$121,822.00  
23 Spending/Savings\*\* - \$188,560.31  
24 Total - \$310,382.31

25  
26 **Highway Aid – \$304,496.95**

27  
28 **Capital Reserves**

29 **General – \$123,353.21**  
30 **Water – \$0.00**  
31 **Sewer – \$0.00**  
32 **Total – \$123,353.21**

33  
34 **Capital Projects**

35 **General – \$927.21**  
36 **Water – \$0.00**  
37 **Sewer – \$0.00**  
38 **Total – \$927.21**

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40 **Community Fund - \$1,782.53**

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

42 **Payroll – \$2,806.76**

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44 **Total - \$1,100,366.46**

45 **Escrow - \$941.50**

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47 \*Formerly called "Restricted"

48 \*\*Formerly called "Operating"

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**Community Relations –**

Tracy Fisher reported that she and Tonya Haynes met recently to discuss the Summer Concert series and other community events. Due to the Akron Day in the Park being held in June, the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration of America being held in July, and National Night Out being held in August, the committee felt it best to only schedule one summer concert this year, perhaps coinciding with the 250<sup>th</sup> celebration in July.

**Parks & Property –**

Tonya Haynes shared that there will be a 250<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration for America. The next planning meeting will be March 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm at the Borough office. The Playground Committee will be looking to meet with everyone in April. Nathan Imhoff asked if more mulch will be added to the Akron Pines playground this spring. Sean Molchany replied yes. Tonya Haynes also mentioned that the entrance to Roland Park is looking good, and will look even better once the plants begin to bloom.

**Personnel**

Paul Swangren, Jr. shared that an offer has been extended for the Public Works position and it has been accepted. The Junior Council Person program is still an active program; however, there were no applicants for the 2025-2026 school year. Justin Gehman will continue to take the lead on this initiative.

**Streets – No Report**

Nathan Imhoff asked about the cracks on Walnut St. Sean Molchany replied that staff have inspected the areas of concern and will be keeping an eye on them. Imhoff suggested using a crack sealant and Molchany replied that it is a possibility. Kleon Zimmerman asked for more information regarding the sinkhole at the culvert at Miller Road. Sean Molchany shared that a sinkhole was identified last Friday and Miller Road was closed between the 100-200 block. The Borough Engineer has been consulted and a meeting to discuss the situation further is scheduled for tomorrow morning. Zimmerman asked if water and sewer lines run through the area. Tom Murray, Jr. replied that water and sewer lines do run along Miller Road and the culvert crosses over both. Nathan Imhoff asked if this is the same culvert for which Council had authorized a repair, Sean Molchany replied that it is, and unfortunately the work could not be completed before major snow storms hit and the damage spread.

**Public Utilities – No Report**

Sean Molchany reached out to C.S. Davidson who reached out to RK&K Engineering to schedule a zoom call to address some of Council’s concerns.

**Public Hearings/Presentations/Appointments**

**Old Business**

- A. **Park House Lease Agreement** – A response was received from AVFC President Dale Miller regarding the estimated timeline. The AVFC is still exploring whether or not leasing the Park House property is something that is in their best interests. The AVFC attorney advised President Miller that it would take 1-2 months to form an LLC should the department decide to lease the property. Tonya Haynes would like to begin exploring other options for the Park House. Nathan Imhoff asked Sean Molchany to reply to Dale Miller to state that Council would like to begin exploring alternate options should they arise.
- B. **Akron Fire Department Siren** – The AVFC will meet on Tuesday, March 3, 2026 and will take a company vote regarding silencing the alarm overnight.

1 **New Business**

2 **A. Resolutions**

3 **B. Ordinances**

4 **C. Motions and Decisions**

5 **D. Acknowledgements**

6 **E. Other Business/Deliberations**

7 **1. Standpipe Proposal RK&K dated February 3, 2026** – Addressed in Public Works  
8 Report

9 **2. Roland Park Kinsley Construction Rain Garden #1 Proposal** – Sean Molchany gave  
10 an overview of the proposal that Kinsley Construction has submitted for \$3,500 to  
11 address the standing water in rain garden #1. The proposed project would be  
12 completed in about a day or so sometime before April/May in order to allow the  
13 plant material to take root and flourish. Paul Swangren, Jr. shared that Kinsley  
14 Construction bought Aquatic Resource Restoration Company, who had originally  
15 constructed the project at Roland Park. Ryan Cochran asked if Public Works would be  
16 filling the line trench with 57's – Sean Molchany replied that the 57's will be  
17 purchased by Akron Borough but Kinsley will complete the work. Discussion  
18 followed concerning the existing warranty on the project. Kleon Zimmerman asked if  
19 the base of the rain garden has been compromised because of being underwater.  
20 Sean Molchany replied that it likely is, and explained how the vegetation will be  
21 planted. Nathan Imhoff expressed concern that this change order to the project will  
22 also not function as designed. Discussion followed regarding record keeping, GIS  
23 maps, and past history of projects in Akron Borough. Ryan Cochran moved to  
24 approve the Kinsley Construction Proposal for Rain Garden #1 in an amount not to  
25 exceed \$3,500; second by Kleon Zimmerman. Paul Swangren, Jr. would like to seek  
26 an extension on the warranty if this work is completed in April/May. Kleon  
27 Zimmerman is in favor of moving forward with this project, because he believes that  
28 \$3,500 is a small cost compared to other options, noting that Land Studies charged  
29 \$1,800 just to visit a Council Meeting to discuss why the project was not functioning  
30 correctly. Paul Swangren, Jr. agrees that this is the right decision after speaking with  
31 the Borough Manager. John McBeth questioned the cost of having Land Studies visit  
32 a Council meeting and asked how many Council members knew of it. Sean Molchany  
33 pointed out that Paul Swangren, Jr. had made the statement before the visit was  
34 scheduled that it would cost the Borough. Molchany added that in addition to the  
35 two Land Studies employees' hourly rate to attend the Council meeting, the visit to  
36 the rain gardens by Land Studies was likely included in that cost. Ryan Cochran said  
37 that himself and Kleon Zimmerman reviewed that invoice and signed off on it during  
38 the Finance Committee meeting, and the invoice in question was included in the  
39 motion to authorize the payment of the monthly bills. Cochran continued by stating  
40 that the Finance meeting is a publicly advertised meeting and anyone is welcome to  
41 come inspect the bills. McBeth countered that he believes "all that information"  
42 should be automatically sent to every Council member. Ryan Cochran clarified if  
43 McBeth meant every invoice, to which McBeth replied "yes, or a listing of all the  
44 checks". Tonya Haynes pointed out that John McBeth could attend the Finance  
45 meetings, to which Mr. Beth stated that he trusts Akron Council to know, specifically  
46 "what's going on". President Nathan Imhoff shut down the conversation as it had  
47 gotten off topic and asked if there was any more discussion on the motion that is on  
48 the table. John McBeth said he is concerned that Council is taking a vote on

1 something that was not advertised as a motion on the agenda. Sean Molchany  
2 replied that it is still listed as “other business and deliberations” which grants Council  
3 the opportunity to make a motion should they so choose. It was discovered that the  
4 copies of the agenda that were in the room for visitors were an incorrect previous  
5 version that did not list the Kinsley proposal; however, the correct version which did  
6 list the proposal was correctly publicly advertised on the website, Facebook, and  
7 posted on the Borough office doors. Valerie Wagner apologized for the clerical  
8 mistake in the copies provided to the public during the meeting. Nathan Imhoff  
9 agreed that having the proposal listed under “other business and deliberations” was  
10 not the best place for it to be; however, he added that Council has made motions for  
11 topics that weren’t on the agenda at all because it came up in discussion. Paul  
12 Swagren, Jr. said that since the \$3,500 would be coming out of the approved 2026  
13 budget, the motion is a formality, but if it was an unbudgeted expenditure and/or  
14 reserve funds were needed, then Swangren believes that it should be advertised  
15 under “motions and decisions” on the agenda. John McBeth argued that perhaps  
16 more people would be interested in attending if they knew there was going to be a  
17 vote on the spending of \$3,500 and furthered that the way this agenda was written,  
18 Council could be spending \$20,000 on a project and no one would know about it.  
19 But if they did know about it, they would want to come to the meeting to express  
20 their opinion. Paul Swangren, Jr. restated that if it is an unbudgeted expenditure, it  
21 should absolutely be advertised under “motions and decisions”, but if the expense is  
22 covered within the approved budget, another motion to authorize isn’t necessary.  
23 Justin Gehman suggested consulting PA State Association of Boroughs regarding  
24 advertisement of agendas. Nathan Imhoff asked Paul Swangren, Jr. if he wanted to  
25 see anything else in writing – Swangren would like C.S. Davidson to include this in  
26 the monthly engineer report, adding to the chronology of the project. Tonya Haynes  
27 agreed that moving forward, for the integrity of Council, items like this get listed  
28 under “motions and decisions” and also said that she and the other six on Council  
29 were elected by the constituents and trusted to make decisions. Haynes feels  
30 comfortable voting on the motion. President Imhoff agreed, that after hearing all the  
31 discussion and valid points made by Paul Swangren, Jr. regarding the budget, he will  
32 take this motion to a vote, noting that the \$3,500 will be paid out of the approved  
33 operating budget. No further discussion, motion carried.

34 **F. Correspondence & Petitions**

35 **G. Executive Session**

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37 Paul Swangren, Jr. took a moment to go back to the former mayor’s comments regarding invoices and  
38 reminded everyone of the monthly Finance meeting that is held at 6:00pm on the second Monday of the  
39 month, noting that he has attended some of the meetings before and that is when the invoices are  
40 inspected and the ledgers are reviewed and approved. He also pointed out that whenever there are  
41 important discussions like this, and he asks “how much is this going to cost?”, the Finance Committee  
42 will let him know what the cost was when the invoice arrives. Swangren said the finances are public  
43 information, so if you want to know, all you have to do is ask, and/or attend the public meetings –  
44 nothing is hidden. Ryan Cochran added that whenever there are larger or unusual costs, he will point  
45 those out during the motion to pay bills, to which Swangren agreed and said he appreciates it. Cochran  
46 said, “that particular bill was probably 1% of the total bills approved that night”. Paul Swangren  
47 emphasized that he didn’t appreciate the comment that “nobody knows”, and said that if you want to  
48 know, you can know, just come to the meeting or ask questions. John McBeth replied that he elects

1 Council and expects them to know and was concerned that not all of Council attends the Finance  
2 meetings. Swangren replied that Council can also be informed by asking questions and getting answers  
3 even if they are not in attendance at the Finance meeting.  
4

5 **Adjournment**

6 Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm; second by Kleon Zimmerman, motion  
7 carried.  
8

9 Respectfully submitted,  
10

11 Sean Molchany  
12 Borough Manager/Secretary  
13

14 SM/vw