Borough of Akron Council Meeting – October 12, 2026

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

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

Visitors:
Thomas Murray, Jr., Public Works Supervisor
Detective Justin Cruce, WEPD
John Taylor, 218 S 8th St Akron
Sue Glick, 119 S 10th St Akron
Anthony Sheaffer, 110 Main St Akron
Baybars Charkas, LNP
John McBeth, 410 Edgehill Dr Akron

Roll Call
Tracy Fisher – present
Tonya Haynes – present
Ryan Cochran – present
Paul Swangren, Jr. – present
Kleon Zimmerman – present
Justin Gehman, Vice President – absent
Nathan Imhoff, President – present
Mayor Susan Davidson – present

President Nathan Imhoff opened the meeting at 6:31pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes
Tonya Haynes made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 28, 2026 Akron Borough Council meeting; second by Ryan Cochran. No discussion, motion carried.

Visitors/Comments from the Public
Anthony Sheaffer shared that the same youth that he had reported to the police previously has continued to speed and drive recklessly on Main Street and the Rail Trail on a black electric dirtbike. Officer Cruce will investigate.

Bills
Ryan Cochran moved to approve the October 2026 Borough of Akron disbursements and fund the appropriate account for the disbursements as reviewed by the Finance Committee: General Fund $197,050.47; Water Fund $14,366.30; Sewer Fund $109,018.90; Sewer Capital Projects $2,270.90; totaling $322,706.57; second by Kleon Zimmerman. Paul Swangren, Jr. asked about the expenses for Capital Sewer: Nissley manhole extension project. Cochran noted large expenditures in General Fund: Weaverland Disaster Services donation and Akron Vol. Fire Relief payment. Large expenditures in Sewer Fund are 4th quarter treatment costs of $94,633.50. No further discussion, motion carried.

Reports/Announcements

Police Report

The September 2026 police report is in Council books for review. Chief Higgins is in a budget meeting for West Earl Township and could not attend tonight. Tonya Haynes asked WEPD to investigate dumpsters on 4th St and N 9th St that do not have appropriate reflective markings and traffic safety cones. Haynes also mentioned traffic safety concerns at Odd Bird Café across from the Akron office of Ephrata National Bank. Sean Molchany noted that PennDOT should be notified that people are parking illegally so that it can be enforced.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Davidson shared that Akron Volunteer Fire Company has requested street closures for their annual Halloween Parade held on Thursday, October 29th. Playground Alley, Broad Street between South Ninth and South Eighth Streets, and Main Street from the intersection of North and South Ninth Street at Main Street to Dawn Avenue. After the parade Main Street will remain closed from Dawn Avenue to Diamond Street. Mayor Davidson grants approval and will reach out to West Earl Police to request their presence. Mayor Davidson shared a recent newsletter from The Historical Society of Cocalico Valley.

Manager's Report

Administration & Finance

September 2026 month-end financials have been reconciled. October 2026 payables were reviewed by the Finance Committee.

Parks & Property

Grass cutting and fall cleanup has been the priority in the parks.

Streets

Tobacco Road developed a sinkhole on July 21, 2026. All materials have been ordered. Once materials are on site, Zimmerman Excavating and Borough staff will schedule and start the work. No date has been set.

Public Utilities

The standpipe proposal prepared by C.S. Davidson has been authorized by staff and we have set up a weekly standing meeting to move the project through the process.

Community Relations – No Report

Planning & Zoning – No Report

Personnel

We are down to two Public Works employees. Interviews are being set up for this week.

Other Business - None

Board Vacancies

Building Code Appeals Board

Grants

PA Small Water & Sewer

$30,000-$500,000 with 15% match

$100 application fee
February to April submittal

Greenway Trail and Recreational (GRTP)
Parks, Trails, Access Roads, Lighting
$250,000 with 15% match
$100 application fee
February to May submittal

Local Share Account Statewide
$1,000,000
$100 application fee
September 1 to November 30 annually

Tonya Haynes asked about the date for construction to begin on Tobacco Road; Sean Molchany explained that half the materials have arrived, the catch basins are not ready yet but once staff have a delivery date, a date can be set for construction to begin. Kleon Zimmerman asked about the delay in materials; Tom Murray, Jr. explained that drawings for the catch basins came back with incorrect measurements but were caught before production. Discussion followed regarding timelines and the urgent nature of the project. Tonya Haynes expressed concerns that the road closure barriers on Tobacco Road are being moved every day. Tonya Haynes has a referral for a public works employee. Nathan Imhoff thanked Borough staff for the dedication put in every day, especially when understaffed and the work does not stop.

Finance – Reviewed by Ryan Cochran
Balances as of September 30, 2026

ALLOCATION TO GENERAL FUND	117,295.74
ALLOCATION TO COMMUNITY FUND	1,777.65
ALLOCATION TO WATER FUND	436,792.76
ALLOCATION TO SEWER FUND	551,657.69
ALLOCATION TO CAPITAL PROJECTS - GENERAL	1,024.11
ALLOCATION TO GENERAL CAPITAL RESERVES FUND	126,306.36
ALLOCATION TO PAYROLL FUND	3,877.23
CASH - ESCROW FUND	1,982.01
CASH - HIGHWAY AID FUND	228,199.66
CASH-NON-UNIFORM PENSION	3,764.64
GRAND TOTAL ALL CASH	1,472,677.85

Mayor Davidson asked if the paperwork had been signed for the line of credit; Valerie Wagner replied that nothing has been signed yet but the bank was notified of intent to proceed.

Community Relations
Tracy Fisher moved to cancel the Annual Shoe-In event, second by Kleon Zimmerman. Nathan Imhoff noted that just because it is cancelled this year does not necessarily mean that it is cancelled permanently. Nathan Imhoff stated that if the Akron Lions Club does express interest and a plan to host the event, it can be discussed. No further discussion, motion carried.

Parks & Property

Tonya Haynes commended Public Works staff for the beauty of the parks. Tonya Haynes asked about the service station at Oak St and 7th St and the weeds. Tonya Haynes spoke about her work with the Preservation Society on the Park House. Tonya Haynes also spoke about the plans for the Veterans Day event on Saturday, November 7th and the Christmas Tree Lighting on Friday, December 4th.

Personnel – No Report

Streets – No Report

Paul Swangren, Jr. asked about the area of concern on Diamond Street and if there was an overflow from the rain over the weekend. Sean Molchany replied that he has not been notified of any complaints.

Public Utilities

Kleon Zimmerman noted that with the recent rainfall, sewer flow numbers are up. Akron is still in penalty flows. Paul Swangren, Jr. asked about water flows being up at the end of September; Tom Murray, Jr. replied that staff is looking for a leak.

Public Hearings/Presentations/Appointments

Old Business

West Earl Police Services Agreement – Sean Molchany advised Council that the final draft had been distributed to Council. A motion to accept the contract is on the agenda.

New Business

Local Services Tax – Valerie Wagner provided an overview of the Local Services Tax (LST) and asked Council to consider implementing the tax in Akron. Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to authorize staff to prepare a resolution for the adoption of the LST; second by Kleon Zimmerman. Citizen John McBeth spoke against the levying of the tax. Ryan Cochran asked the difference of EIT and LST; Wagner replied that the Earned Income Tax (EIT) is withheld from Akron residents' paychecks at a rate of 0.5% of gross wages, and the LST is withheld from those whose primary work location is in Akron Borough at a rate of $52 annually, provided that the employee earns at least $12,000 annually. No further discussion, motion carried 5-1 with Ryan Cochran not in favor.

A. Resolutions

1. **Resolution 26-008 Statewide Local Share –** Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to approve Resolution 26-008 authorizing staff to submit a grant application for the Statewide Local Share Grant for various infrastructure improvements to Roland Park; second by Tonya Haynes. No discussion, motion carried.

B. Ordinances

C. Motions and Decisions

1. **West Earl Police Services Agreement –** Tonya Haynes moved to approve the West Earl Police Services Agreement; second by Paul Swangren, Jr. Discussion: Ryan Cochran stated that his opposition to this motion is in no way a reflection of the level of service that West Earl Township has provided, rather his disagreement is in the fact that multiple quotes have not been received for the Borough's largest expenditure. Discussion followed regarding the Borough's process of negotiating the contract renewal. Nathan Imhoff shared that the current contract can be extended for one additional year, however, that will cost taxpayers more money than if the current proposed contract is accepted. Roll call vote:

Tracy Fisher – yes
Tonya Haynes – yes
Kleon Zimmerman – yes
Ryan Cochran – no
Paul Swangren, Jr. – yes
Nathan Imhoff – yes

D. Acknowledgements
E. Other Business/Deliberations
F. Correspondence & Petitions
G. Executive Session

Miscellaneous Discussion
Mayor Davidson asked if there would be another meeting to discuss the budget; Valerie Wagner and Sean Molchany replied that if Council should choose to schedule another special meeting, they may do so; however, staff planned to discuss any budget updates at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Adjournment
Paul Swangren, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm; second by Kleon Zimmerman, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Molchany
Borough Manager/Secretary
SM/vw