

Akron Town Council Meeting  
November 15, 2021

Present: Jim Saner, President; Rich Solano, Vice-President; Tony Rameriz, Member; Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer; Aaron Gearhart, Superintendent; Jake Gearhart, Assistant Superintendent; Justin Gearhart, Marshal; Andy Perkins, Attorney

Guest: Sign-in Sheet

The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The public hearing on authorizing an additional appropriation was opened & no public comment was heard. Jim made a motion to close the Public hearing. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes. Public hearing closed at 6:02 p.m.

Rich made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 18, 2021 meeting as written. Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

**Business:**

Jackie Hook & Attorney Rick Helm provided a status update on the progress at Akron Trailer Park. The council would like to schedule a follow-up status report for February 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

Lori Tilden-Geiger requested for the council to support the National Registry/Historical Preservation process that Kurt Garner spoke about at the October meeting. The cost is \$4,000.00. Jim made a motion for the town to pay 50% of the fee from economic development funds. Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes Lori indicated the Akron Chamber of Commerce would pay the other 50%.

Rebecca presented 2021 Health Insurance Renewals. The town will continue using IPEP – Anthem for their health insurance.

Discussion took place on increasing the fee for trash tags from \$3.00 to \$4.00. Andy will draft an ordinance for December's meeting.

Rebecca provided the council with an estimate from New Focus HR to update the Employee Handbook. The handbook hasn't been updated since 2001. The council will review the information and make a decision at the December meeting.

Jared Lewis requested leaf pickup outside of city limits. The council informed Mr. Lewis this service is only for residence inside city limits.

**Marshal's Report:** Incident report was presented. Justin informed the council that Halloween was a success. The Durango has been delivered and is currently at CopsGear in Columbia City. Deputy David Lawson will be completing the entry standard at ILEA in December and will be begin the academy the beginning of 2022. An estimate for a PD Server from WACD was presented. Rich made a motion to approve the estimate for \$3,959.83. Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

**Water Dept:** Aaron informed the council he completed 2 data logger reports for residents. Provided an update on the filters at the Water Plant. Repaired a curb stop at 308 S Pine St. Working with vendors to obtain estimates to upgrade controls at Water Plant. Alliance of Indiana assisted with locating a water leak on N Franklin St. Apprenticeship program is going well. Attended the Alliance Fall Conference in Ft. Wayne. Wellhead Protection Plan Phase 2 is completed and approved by IDEM.

**Sewer Dept:** Dan Fox is assisting us with the effluent at the Constructed Wetlands and trying to recalibrate the flow meter. We are still discharging from the lagoons. We do not have to feed any chemicals since it's after October 31<sup>st</sup>. Assisted with a backed-up sewer at 413 E Rochester St.

**Street Dept:** Gaunt & Son patched Front St from Sonoco's Water Main Installation. The town ended up with an \$8,000 invoice for the patch. The council instructed Rebecca to pay the expense from the economic development fund. Gaunt & Son will be back in the spring to do our CCMG paving project. We will need to encumber the funds to pay for this in 2022. Working with vendors to get estimates for valve box risers and manhole risers for the paving project. Leaf pickup is underway with roughly 8 loads collected so far.

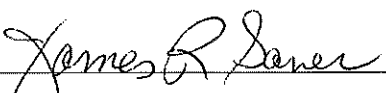
**Miscellaneous:** A total of two 811 locates were completed this month.

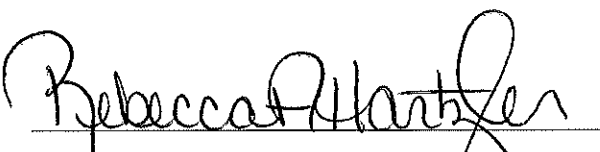
Ordinance 11-15-2021 – An Ordinance Authorizing Additional Appropriation was presented. Jim made a motion to approve the ordinance. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

Jim made a motion to approve the Dockets for \$209,122.62. Tony 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3ayes.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, December 20, 2021 @ 6:00 p.m.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Rich 2<sup>nd</sup>. 3 ayes.

  
James R. Saner, President

  
Rebecca A. Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer