

Akron Town Council Meeting
September 21, 2020

Present: Jim Saner, President; Rich Solano, Vice-President; Brandon Slone, Member; Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer; Aaron Gearhart, Superintendent; Jake Gearhart, Assistant Superintendent; Justin Gearhart, Marshal; James Steen, Pike Lumber Company; Brian Schilling, Pike Lumber Company; Dan Brincefield, ERI; Terry Thornsby, Viridian; Lauren Varga & Brady Dryer, Commonwealth Engineers

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

The public hearing on the 2021 proposed budget was opened & no public comment was heard. Proposed budget is \$684,405. Brandon made a motion to close the Public hearing. Rich 2nd. 3 ayes Meeting was closed at 6:01 p.m.

Brandon made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 17, 2020 meeting as written. Rich 2nd. 3 ayes.

Business:

A Uniform Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement was presented on behalf of Richard Solano and his affiliation with Pike Lumber company to be signed by the council and upload on Gateway per SBOA requirement.

Terry Thornsby with Viridian Architectural Design spoke to the council about Pike Lumber Headquarters. He requested the town council approve for the Fulton Area Plan Commission to issue a permit for the foundation construction without a signed sewer main agreement. Jim Steen, Pike Lumber Company President spoke up on the urgency of the construction to begin on the new office. He told the council that Pike Lumber will pay for all expense related to the project including all the cost incurred by the town for said project. A memorandum of understanding was signed by James Steen, President of Pike Lumber Company & town board members Jim Saner & Brandon Slone regarding the sewer main extension and voluntary annexation. Rich Solano abstained for signing due to conflict of interest. Rebecca will notify Casi Cowles, Executive Director of the Fulton County Area Plan Commission to issue the necessary permit for Pike Lumber to begin construction of the foundation.

Brady Dryer & Lauren Varga with Commonwealth Engineers spoke about the General Service Agreement update with the council. The last agreement dated back to 2007. Rich made a motion to approve the General Service Agreement with CEI. Brandon 2nd. 3 ayes. Jim made a motion to approve the task order regarding Pike Lumber Headquarters. Brandon 2nd. 2 ayes.

Rebecca presented an Engagement Letter provided by Barnes & Thornburg for their services regarding the Sewer Main Agreement for Pike Lumber Headquarters. Jim made a motion to approve the engagement letter as presented. Brandon 2nd. 2 ayes

Rebecca shared that a citizen stopped by the office today regarding the proper placement of political signs. Andy reviewed the town ordinance that does not allow for placement in the town's right-of-way. It is also prohibited on State roads for signage to be in the right-of-way. Justin and Rebecca will draft a letter to send to residents who are in violation of the town ordinance as well as post the information on social media.

The council advised Rebecca to contact Baker Tilly to begin working on the fiscal plan for the voluntary annexation.

Marshal's Report: Incident report was presented. Justin informed the council that the radar signs are installed and positive feedback from the community has been shared with the department. The new keypad entry into the office has been installed. Trick or Treat date and time is set for Thursday, October 31st from 6-8 PM.

Water Dept: Aaron informed the council he completed 1 data logger reports for residents. The new meters for Sonoco-Adhesive Division have been installed. Dan, Jake & Aaron attended a Kennedy Fire Hydrant Demo in Hartford City for CEU's. Still waiting on approval from IDEM to take DSM & WT3 exams. Repaired a total of 4 water leaks: 418 S Mishawaka St (Service line), 816 S SR 19 (Service line & Main), 310 Franklin St (Service Line) & 1609 S SR 19 (Main). We must test for Gross Alpha Radium 228/226 this month per IDEM. Tentatively scheduled for October 7th, Semi-Annual Hydrant Flushing.

Sewer Dept: Aaron informed the council that we had 2 backed up sewers this month. Jake & I met with Sonoco Adhesive department to discuss the substance discharging into the sewer from the plant. Sonoco is going to have their lab company take a sample from the manhole to check the BOD. They are also working on a solution to fix the discharge. Working with Commonwealth Engineers & Barnes & Thornburg on a sewer main extension request by Pike Lumber Company. IDEM Wastewater permit is approved.

Street Dept: The manhole and valve box risers are in for the CCMG street paving project. A start date has yet to be determined. A lift was rented for 8 days from AirWorx to paint the downtown streetlight poles, trim street trees around town and remove 2 dead pine trees at Pike Memorial Park. Leaf pickup will begin October 19th – November 30th.

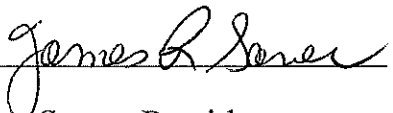
Miscellaneous: A total of nine 811 locates were completed this month. New speed radar signs are installed. The sidewalk replacement project is scheduled for Tuesday, September 22nd. We currently have 2 possibly 3 to replace for 2020.

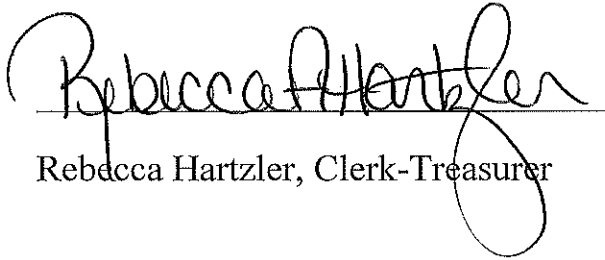
Resolution 09-21-2020 – Transfer of Appropriations was read. Rich made a motion to approve the resolution. Brandon 2nd. 3 ayes.

Rich made a motion to approve the Dockets for \$107,473.13. Brandon 2nd. 3 ayes.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, October 19, 2020 @ 6:00 p.m.

Rich made a motion to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Brandon 2nd. 3 ayes.


Jim Saner, President


Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer