

Akron Town Council Meeting
October 16, 2023

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

Guest: Sign in sheet.

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

Rich made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 18, 2023 council meeting as presented. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes.

CJ Northrop spoke with the council about an idea for his Eagle Scout project. CJ would like to clean headstones and restore the broken ones at the Akron Cemetery on South Mishawaka St (S SR19). Jim made a motion to allow CJ permission to perform the work at Akron Cemetery. Rich 2nd. 3 ayes. Rich will work with CJ and sign any documentation regarding the project. CJ will report back to the council once the project is complete.

The council reviewed the Wastewater Inspection Reports from IDEM. Rebecca, Dan & Aaron will compose a letter to IDEM regarding the Noncompliance issues stated in the report.

Rebecca discussed with the council that the State Board of Accounts is conducting a 4-year audit on the Town of Akron. She presented the current Internal Controls policy and suggested it be modified to represent the current training requirements. Currently, employees are only required to watch the internal controls video and sign the document when hired not annually as stated in the policy. Attorney Perkins is going to provide an updated ordinance of the modification for the council to consider at the November meeting.

Marshal Report: Incident report for September 2023 was presented. Justin informed the council he attended a Lithium-Ion Battery Emergency class in Logansport on October 13th. Justin will be assisting Akron Elementary School on October 17th for their annual safety relocation drill. Justin attended the Autumn in Akron Car Show and said everything went well.

Superintendent Report:

Water Dept: We did 3 data logger reports. We met with Midwestern Engineers & Wessler Engineering to discuss a feasibility study for the Water Utility. We will meet with Commonwealth Engineers next week. Jake & Aaron attended Indiana AWWA northeast meeting in Auburn. Jake & Aaron will be attending Alliance of Indiana Rural Water Conference in Ft. Wayne this week. We are having issues with the flow meter at the Water Plant. Peerless Midwest has been here and assessed it needs to be replaced. Aaron presented a quote from

Peerless Midwest for a new flow meter at the water plant. Jim made a motion to accept the quote of \$10,383 to be paid from the Water Improvement Fund. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes. Aaron & Jake will be watching a webinar on October 17th about the Lead Service Line Inventory that's due October 2024. The fire hydrant on Northwood Drive is leaking again. We are looking to possibly move the hydrant north to the 8" main.

Sewer Dept: We are still waiting on one part for the pump at LS#1. Aaron presented a quote from M&D Electrical Solutions for backup generators at all 3 lift stations. Jim made a motion to accept the quote from M&D Electrical Solutions for \$65,217.50. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes. The generators will be paid for from the APRA funds received from Fulton County. Aaron shared about meeting with Clearbrooke Technologies and the product they use to reduce the sludge in lagoons. Chance with Clearbrooke will give the proposal to Aaron at the Alliance Conference in Ft. Wayne. A residential complaint was received because Garcia's is dumping grease down the drain and causing sewer backup in the neighbor's home. Rebecca contacted the Fulton County Health Department and Dawn will be contacting Garcia's to require them to dispose of the grease appropriately and not down the sanitary sewer system. Aaron assisted Pike Lumber Company & Weed Inc on a backed-up sewer at the Sawmill. The wastewater treatment inspection was completed on September 26, 2023.

Street Dept: All the stump grinding has been completed for the trees Duke Energy removed around town. Curbside leaf pickup begins October 16th. Aaron & Rebecca informed the council that the 2022-2 Community Crossings Matching Grant funds had to be returned to the state because a road was incorrectly listed on the application and contract. Rebecca issued payment back to the state \$213,994.87 & put the local match back into MVH Restricted \$65,000.00 & Rainy Day \$6,331.63.

Miscellaneous: The Ford F550 dump truck has arrived and is being utilized. The car show banner from downtown has been removed. The restrooms at Pike Memorial Park will be closed the week of October 16th.

Ordinance 10-16-2023 – 2024 Budget – Rich made a motion to approve the Ordinance as presented. Jim 2nd. 2 ayes. Tony abstained due to being a member of the Henry Township Volunteer Fire Department.

Ordinance 10-16-2023A – 2024 Salary Ordinance – Rich made a motion to approve the Ordinance as presented. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes.

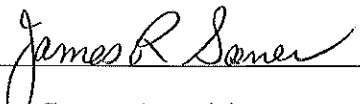
Resolution 10-16-2023 – Transfer of Appropriations – Jim made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Rich 2nd. 3 ayes.

Rich made a motion to approve Dockets for \$206,067.78. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes.

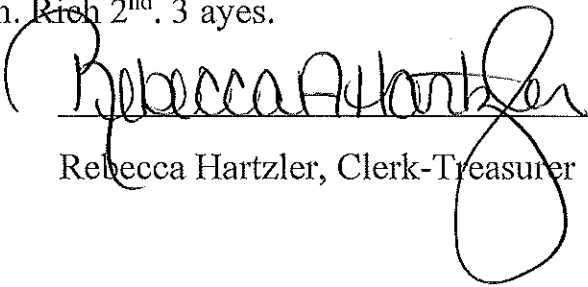
Rich made a motion to approve Payroll Allowance Docket for \$30,754.20. Tony 2nd. 3 ayes.

The next council meeting is Monday, November 13, 2023 @ 6:00 p.m.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 7:11 p.m. Rich 2nd. 3 ayes.



Jim Saner, President



Rebecca Hartzler, Clerk-Treasurer