

March 4, 2024

A REGULAR MEETING of the Akron Village Board was held on this date at 7:06 pm. Present: Mayor Brian T. Perry; Trustees: E. Peter Forrestel, Michael R. Middaugh, Darin S. Schultz, and John W. Norton; Attorney Andrew Borden, Clerk Jayne DeTine, Treasurer Sarah Michel, Chief of Police Richard Lauricella and Code Enforcement Assistant Kevin Pacquin.

The Mayor led us in the pledge to the flag.

RESOLUTION duly moved by Forrestel and seconded by Norton that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 26, 2024 be and hereby are approved by the Village Board.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

RESOLUTION, duly moved by Middaugh seconded by Schultz that the audit of the bills is approved, and the Treasurer authorized to pay same in accordance with the following abstract of audit vouchers:

General Fund	\$ 26,599.89
Electric Fund	\$ 113,021.22
Water Fund	\$ 15,481.36
Sewer Fund	\$ 7,294.32

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

RESOLUTION duly moved by Schultz and seconded by Perry that the following building permits be and hereby are approved with the application and approval of the Code Enforcement Officer:

Nic's Deli (New Owner)	83 John St	New Business	\$50.00
LL Tillman/Amer Legion	9 Eckerson Ave	Repair fr. accident	\$ 0.00
Angelo Lucciano	47 Main St	Bldg. Renovation	\$2,486.00

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

RESOLUTION duly moved by Schultz and seconded by Forrestel that the following application for a Dumpster Permit be and hereby is approved in accordance with the application filed and payment of permit fee:

Saxon Weil	27 Jackson St	Renewal	\$50.00
Strippit, Inc.	12975 Clarence Ctr Rd	Renewal	\$150.00

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

PUBLIC HEARING – None

APPEARANCE - None

PUBLIC COMMENT – Jackson Street Resident, Martin Schuman, came before the Board to thank the DPW for the cleanup of the pond intake and overflow in the Cornerstone Subdivision. He also wanted to thank the DPW for the great snow removal this year.

PROJECT REPORTS –

Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade – scheduled a site visit tomorrow at 9:00 am with Eric Wies from CPL to create final punch list.

Electric Substation Upgrade – Public Works Manager Jon Cummings requested the payment to T & R Electric to rebuild the substation three phase 1000 KVA regulator in the amount of \$29,180.00.

RESOLUTION duly moved by Middaugh and seconded by Schultz to approve the payment in the amount of \$29,180.00 to T & R Electric to rebuild the Substation Three Phase 1000 KVA Regulator as per the recommendation of Public Works Manager Jon Cummings and the Electric and Cable TV Committee be and hereby is approved.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

State Street Bridge – Mayor Perry reported that the Erie County Lands Advisory Committee approved the Village’s request for an easement to use a small portion of Akron Falls Park land adjacent to the bridge only during construction.

East Avenue Water/Sewer Line Replacement – Public Works Manager Cummings reported receiving a 3% loan on \$3,000,000 for 38 years as the funding for the water replacement portion of the project. The Sewer portion of the project is going through the funding process now and we should hear the results very soon.

MONTHLY REPORTS –

Departments –

VILLAGE ATTORNEY – Nothing new.

CLERK – submitted report for February 2024. Reported: Attended the MAOA meeting on February 14, 2024 where discussion was held about elections; retirement reporting issues; ARPA funds; Airbnb regulations; etc. Completed and submitted the 2023 NYS Grant Application for the Household Hazardous Waste event held May 20, 2023. Working with Erie County Board of Elections for the Village Special Election set for March 19, 2024. Worked with Mike Lyon from IEEP regarding reimbursements for two Village Heat Pumps and LED lighting at the Joint Facility Shop and lastly began preparations for the 2024-2025 Village Taxes.

CHIEF OF POLICE – submitted report for February 2024 and schedule for March 2024. Reported: All routine maintenance on vehicles up to date; Attended Akron Chamber of Commerce meeting to discuss Police coverage for the eclipse and cars shows; Sent Quote for a new patrol car to the Police, Fire, and Emergency Services Committee. Received all background paperwork and fingerprint results for new hire Officer Timothy Dusza.

PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER – Reported: The DPW is enjoying the current weather which is allowing them to get a lot of maintenance done; Big equipment maintenance has been completed; Prepping floors at the Sewer Plant Cold Storage building and preparing to install gutters on that building as well; prepping for paving at the sewer plant and the roads by Ford Gum; All the trees scheduled to be taken down this year have all been taken down.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER –submitted report for February 2024. Assistant Code Enforcement Officer Kevin Paquin reported that he spoke to the property owner of 47

Main Street. Permit has been submitted. Mayor Perry asked if he could call the Mattress Company, who has signs all over the Village, to remove the signs.

AKRON FIRE COMPANY – Reported during the earlier work session.

Elected Officials –

TRUSTEES – COORDINATORS

Trustee Norton – reported: Confirmed with ACS Superintendent, Andrea Kersten, that the school will be closed for the eclipse on April 8, 2024.

Trustee Forrestel – reported: Worked with Jayne on a letter to go out to property owners that had trees planted this past fall notifying them that each tree will be mulched and provided with a watering pail. A guide on how to take care of the new trees will be included with the letter.

Mayor Perry – reported: He mentioned the call with USDA Representative Thomas Becker regarding the East Avenue Water/Sewer line replacement project; made the weekly call with the Verizon Representative, Mike DeFranco, regarding cell towers in the Village to help supply the needed bandwidth.

Trustee Middaugh – reported: Wanted to remind residents that yard & brush waste pick-up does not begin until March 25, 2024. It is too early to set it out to the curb.

Trustee Schultz – reported: He reached out to another company providing security cameras for a quote. He scheduled a meeting for March 13, 2024 with Trustee Middaugh, Chief of Police Lauricella, Fire Chief Haist, and Emergency Manager Kowalik, regarding preparedness between all departments for events coming this year.

OLD BUSINESS –

Eckerson Avenue Property Development Project – Discussed during the earlier work session.

American Legion/LL Tillman – Corner of Clinton Ave and Eckerson Ave – Discussed during the earlier work session.

Village Property Security/Oversight – Trustee Schultz reported on during his report.

Village Residents Odor Complaint – No updates.

Electric Rate Case– Nothing new.

NEW BUSINESS –

RESOLUTION duly moved by Schultz and seconded by Norton to approve the 2023 Akron Fire Company Service Award Program Firefighter Record as provided by the Akron Fire Company and recommended by the Police, Fire, and Emergency Services Committee be and hereby are approved.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

RESOLUTION duly moved by Schultz and seconded by Middaugh to approve the purchase in the amount of \$39,912.05 to ProPac, Inc. for the Village Emergency Shelter Support Trailer as per the recommendation of the Emergency Manager, Daniel Kowalik, and the Police, Fire, and Emergency Services Committee be and hereby is approved.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE

DARIN S. SCHULTZ - AYE
JOHN W. NORTON - AYE

CORRESPONDENCE –

Letter from Charter Communications regarding broadcast changes dated February 27, 2024.

Planning Board minutes from the meeting held February 26, 2024.

Electric Substation transformer Loading Diagram from Consulting Engineer Douglas Strang showing the available capacity vs future projected demand of the Village.

Letter from Retired Village Attorney, Don Shonn, thanking the Village on behalf of the NYSDOH Surrogate Decision Making Committee for the use of the Village Board Room and internet.

NYCOM Update – Sample resolution from NYCOM to increase AIM funding for Villages and Cities.

RESOLUTION duly moved by Mayor Perry and seconded by Trustee Forrestel

Whereas, the Aid and Incentives for Municipalities (AIM) program plays a critical role in funding essential municipal services for cities and villages across New York State; and

Whereas, city and village officials share the same priorities as our state leaders which is to make New York safer and more affordable; and

Whereas, New York’s local governments, who are on the frontlines of controlling property tax affordability and ensuring public safety, are integral to achieving those goals; and

Whereas, the State has not increased AIM funding in 15 years and according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, inflation has increased by nearly 45% during that same period; and

Whereas, this neglect from the State has led to rising municipal tax burdens and harmful disinvestment in essential municipal services and staff; and,

Whereas, the property tax cap further limits the ability of local governments to properly fund the services their residents need; and

Whereas, the challenges of rising inflation, the increasing costs of labor and supplies, and the end of extraordinary federal aid, only accentuate the need for an increase in AIM funding; and

Whereas, the Governor’s 2024-2025 Executive Budget proposes to keep AIM funding flat; and

Whereas, an increase in AIM funding would reduce the local tax burden and help revitalize communities across New York, and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Akron Village Board urges Governor Hochul to work with the leaders of the Senate and Assembly and increase AIM funding in the 2024-25 adopted State Budget.

ADOPTED BRIAN T. PERRY - AYE
 E. PETER FORRESTEL - AYE
 MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH - AYE
 DARIN S. SCHULTZ - AYE
 JOHN W. NORTON - AYE

PUBLIC COMMENT – Brian Murray stated that he, along with Trustee Forrestel, have been going to the Akron Central School New Sport Complex project meetings and mentioned that if anyone had any questions or suggestions to let them know before the design stage is completed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION –

RESOLUTION duly moved by Perry and seconded by Schultz to go into an executive session regarding the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation at 7:51 pm be and hereby is approved.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

RESOLUTION duly moved by Perry and seconded by Norton to come out of the executive session regarding the medical, financial, credit, or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal, or removal of a particular person or corporation at 8:31 pm be and hereby is approved.

ADOPTED	BRIAN T. PERRY	- AYE
	E. PETER FORRESTEL	- AYE
	MICHAEL R. MIDDAUGH	- AYE
	DARIN S. SCHULTZ	- AYE
	JOHN W. NORTON	- AYE

On motion of Perry and seconded by Norton at 8:32 pm this meeting was ADJOURNED.

MAYOR

CLERK