

Chairperson, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 6:00pm, called the Regular Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order as advertised in the Tribune Review on Saturday, January 7, 2023. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Mark Petros, Bill Dull, and Linda Harvey. Also attending the meeting were Solicitor Lee Demosky, Rich Hill, Chad Albert, Bruce Zarnick, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**An Executive Session was held on February 15, 2023 at 5:00pm to discuss personnel and legal issues.**

**Report of Township General Fund Accounts, Susan Leukhardt**

<b>Account</b>	<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Deposits / Interest</b>	<b>Transfers / Payments</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
<b>JANUARY, 2023</b>				
FNB General Fund	\$ 78,923.24	\$ 126,710.79	\$ 100,417.01	\$ 105,217.02
PLGIT General Fund	\$ 340,750.39	\$ 22,112.66	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 262,863.05
FNB Reserve Account	\$ 145,618.17	\$ 306.40	-0-	\$ 145,924.57

**Report from Public Works Director, Rich Hill**

- Salted roads during and after each snow event. Also salted frozen spots of Township roads from run off.
- Cut our road drains and culverts throughout the Township.
- Trimmed trees throughout Township.
- Performed maintenance to public works trucks and equipment.
- Met with several other Townships from the tri-state area regarding the sale of the old road mowing tractor. I believe we had 15 Townships inspect the tractor/mower.
- The winning bid for tractor was \$62,100 from Chardon, Ohio.
- Handled numerous PA One Calls.
- Repaired and/or installed road signs throughout the Township.
- Set up Pierce Road and Stewart Road for drainage work. Beginning on Pierce Road next week.
- Crew worked with Gibson Thomas Engineering at Recreation Center.

**Report from Recreation Director, Chad Albert**

**Recreation Center:**

- On Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, an inspection of the Recreation Center/Library was conducted by Gibson Thomas Engineering. During the inspection, the engineers found the structure to be unsafe for occupancy and recommended the building be vacated immediately. As a result, the Recreation Center/Library and parking lot will remain closed until further notice. In-depth inspection and analysis of rehabilitation methods will be investigated prior to future public access. More information will be provided throughout tonight's meeting.

**Recreation Activities:**

- The Recreation Department and volunteer committee will host The Annual Father/Daughter Dance at the Crystal Ballroom in Herminie on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. More information will be listed on our website. Ticket sales will be on Saturday March 11<sup>th</sup> at the Municipal Building on Mars Hills Road from 11:00am to 1:30pm.

**Crabapple Park / Pool:**

- We are accepting applications to rent the Crabapple Park Pavilion during the Spring and Summer months. Contact us at the Recreation Office to reserve your date. Application forms and more information on how to apply is available on our website.
- We are also accepting applications and interviewing candidates for Park and Recreation Maintenance. That posting is still active on Indeed.com.

**Report from Ordinance Officer, Bruce Zarnick**

Address: 602 Madison Ave	Date Received: 1/20/23	Date of Investigation: 1/20/2023
Complaint: Garbage/Rubbish in front yard		
Status: Found garbage and rubbish in front yard as well as a mini fridge and a microwave. No one home. Sent a notice to homeowner with the ordinance description and provided him with addresses and numbers to have them recycled appropriately and the days for the February recycling pickup by County Hauling		

Address: in area of 144 Lowber Rd	Date Received: 1/21/2023	Date of Investigation: 1/21/2023
Complaint: Illegally burning tires		
Status: Went out after work and found some signs of a previous fire smoldering but no one around. No danger at the time.		

Address: 156 Lowber Rd	Date Received: 1/21/23	Date of Investigation: 1/22/2023
Complaint: Follow-up to the illegal burn in this area, trying to locate exact property and owner.		
Status: Got parcel number for where the burning took place.		

Address: 156 Lowber Rd	Date Received: 1/21/2023	Date of Investigation: 1/23/2023
Complaint: Illegally burning tires and burning outside of set burning days/hours per township ordinance		
Status: Found evidence of another burn. No one present at the time. No immediate danger. Sent violation letter to property owner. – Property owner replied that the neighbors there are doing this and they have not been on the property in years.		

Address: 326 Ash Street	Date Received:	Date of Investigation or action: 1/24/2023
Complaint: Abandoned home/Dangerous Structure		
Status: Placard placed to condemn the home		

Address: 130 Daisy Street	Date Received: 1/25/2023	Date of Investigation: 1/25/2023
Complaint: Motion Light shining into neighbor's window		
Status: The motion light was pointed slightly toward the neighbor's house and could be shining into the bedroom's windows causing a nuisance, however at the time of investigation the motion light failed to come on.		

Address: 3061 Clay Pike	Date Received: 1/29/2023	Date of Investigation: 1/31/2023
Complaint: Abandoned home, high grass/weeds, possible unsafe structure		
Status: Home is solid and nothing found dangerous. Home appears to be unoccupied at this time. High grass/weeds found over the entire property. Attempting to locate the owner.		

Address: Multiple Locations of township junkyards	Date Received: N/A	Date of Investigation or actions: 2/01/2023
Service: Create, print, and attempt to distribute junkyard certificates		
Status: Able to create new professional certificates to give to junkyard owners for operation of a junkyard withing the township. No yards open at time of distribution, will go back to distribute later this week.		

Address: 206 Pickett Street	Date Received: 2/02/2023	Date of Investigation: 2/02/2023
Complaint: Right to know request for this address to see if there are any current ordinance violations for this property		
Status: Nothing in my files for this or from previous ordinance officer files. Went out to the property and was unable to find any major concerns for a violation.		

Address: Mullaerts junkyard	Date Received: N/A	Date of Investigation: 1/3/2023
Service: Distribute Junkyard Certificate		
Status: Distributed certificate to Mullaerts Junkyard		

Address: Limerick Rd/Wendel Road	Date Received: Ongoing since November 2022	Date of Investigation: 2/3/2023
Complaint: Junk, rubbish, garbage all over the properties		
Status: Looking into further legal options as property owner has habit of paying the fines and not taking care of the problem.		

Address: Sewickley Hill Rd	Date Received: 2/07/2023	Date of Investigation: 2/07/2023
Complaint: Parking Complaint – parked vehicle waiting for school bus, tires on neighbor's grass		
Status: Investigating – phone call to State Police to confirm law		

Address: 3295 Clay Pike	Date Received: 2/07/2023	Date of Investigation: 2/10/2023
Complaint: Garbage/Rubbish in yard		
Status: Spoke to homeowner's son who said he is planning to clean up the yard as soon as there is a warm weather day.		

Address: Multiple Locations – township junkyards	Date Received: N/A	Date of Investigation: 2/10/2023
Service: Distribute last of the junkyard certificates		
Status: New 2023 Certificates delivered to Diperna's, J. Porters, & Mullaert's.		

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items Only**

Kalyn Wees spoke about Davis Road off of Limerick. It's a really nice street for families but is in bad shape. Mr. Hill stated he will be out to look at it.

Marci Suggars asked if the banks accounts listed are all the Township accounts. Mrs. Leukhardt responded that those are the General Fund accounts only.

### **Presentation by Sewickley Township's Consulting Engineer regarding the Recreation Building in Herminie --- given by Matt Burns**

Last Thursday, the Board of Supervisors asked Gibson-Thomas to look at the Recreation Center due to concerns over cracking in the interior/exterior of the building. Took some measurements and determined that the wall had some significant cracking where the point loads of the roof trusses were bearing on it. Also, the wall seemed to be out of plumb enough that it is concerning because that wall is considered slender. It is not very thick for how wide or tall it is. The movement, in addition to the cracking, is concerning. Under a significant snow load, we couldn't say it's safe to occupy daily.

Residents questions were then answered to the best of their ability by the Engineer and the Board of Supervisors.

Solicitor Demosky clarified that Gibson-Thomas is the Consulting Engineer for the Township and are looking for a Structural Engineer as soon as possible which we will retain to do a study on the Recreation Center. We will then be informed of if the Recreation Center can be fixed, how much it will cost, etc.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the agenda as presented below. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to approve entering a professional services contract with a structural engineer as recommended by Gibson Thomas Engineering. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to disburse the 2022 EMS Tax Money equally between 6 entities being Herminie, Lowber, Rillton, and Hutchinson Fire Companies, Emergency Management, and Sewickley Ambulance Service. The total to be disbursed is \$ 98,573.96. Each entity is eligible to receive \$ 16,428.99. The funds will be kept in the EMS Tax Account until invoices / purchase orders are submitted and approved by the Board of Supervisors. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to disburse 2022 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Bearcom – monthly maintenance on portable radios	\$ 92.00
Comcast – monthly EOC phone & internet	\$ 311.74
Everbridge, Inc – nixle annual renewal	\$ 3,300.00

Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to enact Ordinance 5-2022 modifying the Sewickley Township Code, Chapter 21, Sections 101 through 104, to address restoration of streets excavated within Sewickley Township. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Dull made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to adopt Resolution 7-2023 appointing Michael Manley as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the Township of Sewickley. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to adopt Resolution 12-2023 appointing Tom Couch to the Sutersville-Sewickley Municipal Sewage Authority subject to the submission of a letter of resignation from the Board of Auditors which will be accepted by the Board of Supervisors upon receipt. This term is completing the term of Jamie Lynn Dubinsky and shall expire the first Monday of January, 2026. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to adopt Resolution 13-2023 authorizing the dissolution of the Municipal Sewage Authority of the Township of Sewickley. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to enter into a Participation Agreement with DGS Costars for the purchase of salt for the 2022-2023 season. Estimated tonnage for the 2023-2024 purchase shall be 1,600 ton. We will be required to purchase a minimum of 60% to a maximum of 140% of the estimated tonnage. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the Robert and Catherine Keegan Plan located at 125 Ponderosa Lane contingent upon the approval of the Sewage Planning Module from DEP. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to receive proposals for Lawn Care Services, the cutting and trimming of the following locations:

- a) Township Building lawn including maintenance at the front and sides of the building
- b) Recreation Center lawn & bank facing Pike Street
- c) Quaker Cemetery
- d) Shaner Honor Roll
- e) The Project 70 property located at the Sewickley Township Volunteer Fire Company (Rillton)
- f) Reservoir Road Cemetery
- g) Lowber Playground (inside and outside of fence)
- h) Hutchinson Playground
- i) Township Property located at Pike Street and Sewickley Avenue
- j) Cameron Avenue Property, Hutchinson

The Contractor shall be responsible for fuel, equipment, and Workers Compensation and Liability Insurance. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Dull made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to receive proposals for Lawn Care Services, the cutting and trimming of the following locations:

- a) John C. Bruno Memorial Football Field
- b) All Baseball and Softball Fields
- c) Crabapple Park

The Contractor shall be responsible for fuel, equipment, and Workers Compensation and Liability Insurance. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to purchase and install a fence around the Herminie VFC fire siren located near the Recreation Center. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to close the Township Office on Friday, March 10, 2023 so the Township Office employees may attend the 112<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Westmoreland County Association of Township Supervisors at Stratigo's Banquet Centre. Employees will be paid their regular hourly rate while attending this convention and their expenses for travel be paid by the Township. Others, as outlined in the Second Class Township Code, will receive the \$50.00 stipend. Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the following bills for payment:

### **General Fund:**

Check 12986 - \$ 40.00 (1/30/23)  
 Checks 12987 to 12988 - \$ 1,419.14 (2/1/23)  
 Checks 12989 to 13001 - \$ 12,041.83 (2/3/23)  
 Checks 13002 to 13032 - \$ 37,779.68 (2/6/23)  
 Checks 13033 to 13043 - \$ 8,524.43 (2/8/23)

First Energy - \$ 43.40 (2/8/23)  
 Amtrust - \$ 6,088.00 (2/9/23)

### **ACH Payments:**

First Insurance - \$ 3,711.60 (1/18/23)  
 MAWC - \$ 185.85 (1/19/23)  
 MAWC - \$ 62.13 (1/19/23)  
 First Energy (8 invoices) - \$ 559.00 (1/27/23)  
 First Insurance - \$ 3,389.18 (1/31/23)  
 PSATS UC Group Trust - \$ 1,084.34 (2/2/23)  
 Columbia Gas - \$ 510.22 (2/3/23)

### **Act 13:**

Check 1156 - \$ 40,526.88 (2/3/23)  
 Check 1157 - \$ 7,423.84 (2/8/23)

### **Crabapple:**

Checks 4968 to 4970 - \$ 526.31 (2/3/23)  
 Check 4971 - \$ 39.89 (2/8/23)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 37.17 (1/20/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 33.45 (1/27/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 22.67 (1/27/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 121.54 (2/8/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 100.97 (2/8/23)

Credit Card Machine Fee - \$ 38.24 (2/10/23)

### **Payroll / Paychex ACH Liabilities:**

Paychex - \$ 153.10 (1/20/23)  
 Paychex - \$ 149.45 (1/27/23)  
 Paychex - \$ 81.50 (1/27/23)  
 Paychex - \$ 579.45 (2/3/23)  
 Paychex - \$ 10.14 (2/7/23)  
 Paychex - \$ 136.45 (2/10/23)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,725.72 (1/20/23)  
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,274.26 (1/27/23)  
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,403.85 (2/3/23)  
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,621.27 (1/13/23)  
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,473.06 (2/10/23)

### **Recreation:**

Checks 2991 to 2994 - \$ 829.39 (2/3/23)  
 Checks 2995 to 2996 - \$ 700.00 (2/8/23)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 123.90 (1/20/23)  
 MAWC - \$ 56.68 (1/20/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 25.23 (1/25/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 496.28 (1/27/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 15.36 (1/27/23)

Columbia Gas - \$ 923.76 (2/3/23)

### **Street Light / Fire Hydrant:**

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,121.96 (2/6/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 575.83 (2/6/23)  
 First Energy - \$ 362.24 (2/6/23)

Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the following payrolls for payment:

<b>Employees Payroll:</b>	1/20/2023 - \$10,860.55
	1/27/2023 - \$ 8,417.98
	2/3/2023 - \$ 9,920.73
	2/10/2023 - \$ 9,772.53
	2/17/2023 - \$10,306.60

Voting: Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

### **General Public Comment**

Marci Suggars thanked the Road Crew for cleaning up the tires off the side of her road.

Daryl Demotta asked how the streets in Hermine will be fixed after the gas line work is completed. Mr. Hill stated that we have been in contact with the gas company. Once the project is complete, we will meet with them and the State to get some sort of resolution.

Irma Jury thanked the Board of Supervisors for giving the Library more information about the situation with the building. The library is an essential part of the community. It means so much to so many people. This will be a difficult situation for all of us, but she believes with the amount of people concerned about it, it can work.

### **Old / New Business**

The Board of Supervisors is looking for any persons interested in serving on the Sewickley Township Planning Commission. Please send letters of interest to the Sewickley Township Municipal Building for consideration.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2023 at 6:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Bill Dull made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Petros.

Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Meeting adjourned at 6:38pm.

Susan D, Leukhardt  
Secretary-Treasurer