

Chairperson, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 6:11pm, 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 Rich Hill, Chad Albert, Michael Manley, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report of Township General Fund Accounts, Susan Leukhardt

Account	Beginning Balance	Deposits / Interest	Transfers / Payments	Ending Balance
MAY, 2023				
FNB General Fund	\$ 117,274.11	\$ 326,113.42	\$ 121,129.75	\$ 322,257.78
PLGIT General Fund	\$ 411,067.54	\$ 121,382.43	-0-	\$ 532,449.97
FNB Reserve Account	\$ 146,760.92	\$ 318.45	-0-	\$ 147,079.37

Report from Public Works Director, Rich Hill

- The Road Department worked approximately six (6) days at either the park or pool to get ready for the Candlelight Vigil. There was also a grinder pump issue.
- Road Crew assisted paving contractors with hauling millings. Approximately 40 truckloads went to the Township Building or Keystone.
- Put in new drain box on Wlips Drive. Also working on approximately 600' of drainage on Crescent Drive as there is no drainage on this roadway. We are installing several drain boxes and the associated piping. This roadway is listed on the 2023 paving schedule.
- Replace several stolen or broken road signs.
- We ordered the equipment we were awarded through the state grant... mowing tractor, asphalt hotbox, and seal coating machine.
- We took possession of the three (3) trucks purchased. Two (2) of them are at Super City waiting to get the beds and winter equipment put on them. The crew cab pickup truck is here and will probably replace the current service truck.
- Met with Gibson Thomas Engineering regarding Rillton Phase 1 project for drainage and paving. The Road Department will be doing the camera work to save approximately \$13,500.00.
- Met with Shaner Gun Club with Supervisor Petros regarding Stewart Lane. They are on board with the Township putting in a new portion of road. Asked Gibson Thomas Engineering to set up and begin the process of surveying the proposed roadway.

Residents asked questions regarding Phase 1 of the Rillton project and the truck purchases.

Report from Recreation Director, Chad Albert

Crabapple Park and Pool:

- Crabapple Pool remains closed due to staffing issues. We are still recruiting lifeguards and managers to potentially open for July and August. We are also exploring a limited 5-day schedule, but we are very limited on staff at this time. We have reached out to West Newton and other local swim clubs for assistance with staffing.
- The pool still has a leak which is manageable enough to operate another season. Our commercial pool consultants compared the leak to a broken straw. While the pump is operating, suction is strong enough to reduce the leak. If the pump is off, the leak is more significant.
- The underwater lights have been fixed after two (2) years of being out of service. This opens another revenue stream for night swims. However, we cannot accept any reservations for parties or sell season

passes until an opening day is confirmed. Prices would be pro-rated to compensate for the shortened season.

- If you or anyone you know has an interest in joining the pool staff and helping us open this season, please contact us at the Township Building.

Recreation Center:

- On Friday, June 9th, a public workshop was held to discuss the status of the Recreation Center and various options moving forward. Mr. Petros mentioned exploring the blighting process, which to my understanding, would be handing over the property to the County having them handle the demo expenses and hazmat removal. Then the property would go up for sale, which the Township could potentially re-acquire the land.
- The official definition of blight is described by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development as a blighted structure is when a structure "exhibits objectively determined signs of deterioration sufficient to constitute a threat to human health, safety and public welfare". The removal of blight is critical to the health, safety and welfare of a community. Blight removal can significantly reduce crime, boost property values, and even aid residents' health.

Recreation Events:

- The Recreation Committee is searching for a partner to host the Rabies Clinic at the park pavilion. This would offer residents an affordable and convenient alternative to visiting the vet and updating their pet's required vaccinations.
- The Recreation Committee is also in the planning stages to host two (2) Movies in the Park in July and August. Thanks to local donations, we have the budget to host and offer this event free to all. Concessions and food trucks will be available. Dates to be announced soon.
- Hutchinson Community Days will be held on Friday, July 7th and Saturday, July 8th from 5:00pm to 10:00pm. The parade is Friday at 6:30pm. Saturday, the Community Yard Sale is from 8:00am to 2:00pm with the fireworks at 10:00pm. Join the community for FOOD • GAMES • ENTERTAINMENT • and MORE.
- Volunteers are always welcome to join our Recreation Committee. If you are interested in helping the community, and have time to donate, please consider joining. Contact myself or the Township Office for more information.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Bruce Zarnick --- given by Linda Harvey

This month, there were thirteen (13) high grass and weeds complaints. All have received letters, and some have received a second notice giving them seven (7) days from the receipt of the second notice to bring their properties into compliance. I will be filing citations at the magistrate's office this coming week for any of those that are still not in compliance when I check back on them.

I have been to the magistrate's office twice this month so far to file citations for several properties. These include citations for junk, high grass/weeds, an illegal burn, and dangerous structures. I am waiting for the magistrate to send the results of the fines paid or to set up court dates.

On Wednesday June 14th, there was a meeting held with the Township Officials to discuss some changes to the ordinances. Topics discussed were setting a new ordinance in place restricting dirt bikes/atv's from riding in the streets. This is to prevent accidents and keep the public safer. The burning ordinance was discussed to potentially change the hours set for burning from just 6:00am to 6:00pm to dusk till dawn so that summer hours can be extended for those who work. Also, the discussion was including a section to allow for recreational fires at any time as long as they are recreational in nature and kept to a smaller size. Mobile home park regulations were also discussed to help combat blight from trailer parks that are not keeping up with ordinance regulations.

This month, I went to Sewickley Pines to investigate multiple code violations. The conditions were found to be unacceptable and need addressed. The park is in serious violation at this time. A letter is being sent out to the current owner letting them know they need to apply for a permit to operate and that they need to bring the park into compliance with the current township code.

Limerick Road complaints on junk and blight are being dealt with. The property owners were working on cleaning up but have now resorted back to having junk on the property and have stopped the progress. A final warning was issued and citations to begin next week if they do not comply. The trailer on Limerick that has

been condemned is still on my agenda. I'm having trouble locating the owner but will be filing citations with the magistrate in hopes they can find the owner. If anyone has contact information for William E. Jury III, please call and let the Township know so that we can get the violations letters to him.

Constanza properties have current citations filed at the magistrates and will be having regular fines issued until the problem is addressed.

The abandoned and junk vehicle complaints in Rillton and Sutersville are pending. I am sending a request for information to PennDOT this week to get the owners' information so that they can be contacted.

Report from Emergency Management Director, Michael Manley

Notable Incidents

Structure Fire on May 29, 2023 at 1493 West Newton-Herminie Road @ Dairy Queen – mulch on fire with minor damage to side of structure.

No unmet needs or Issues to report.

Weather Events – None



Nixle Alerts – Due to dry and wind conditions, elevated Risk alert for Wildfire Spread (notified Township Fire Chiefs and Community alert)

Notable Meetings Trainings - Tasks and Noteworthy Meetings

Name	Title	Date
EMA Meeting - Wed 6/7 (5 in attendance)	General Business Meeting	6/7/2023
Incident Management	Crabapple Vigil Event with Hutchinson VFD	5/25/2023
Incident Management	Prep large scale outdoor event Yough HS Graduation with EMS Director and EMS Supervisor Staff	6/2/2023
Chief/Line Officers Meeting	Herminie VFD – Met with Chief Kline	6/20/2023

Upcoming Meeting with WCDPS

Project Identification for Hazard Mitigation Plan – August 23, 2023 at 9:30am at the Sewickley Township EOC. The Board of Supervisors and EMA Staff, if available, are invited to attend. More details and information to follow.

Residents inquired and there was discussion on the drone and the Emergency Operations Center.

Report from Gibson-Thomas Engineering --- given by Mark Petros

DCED Funded Project - Crabapple Park - Tennis Court Renovation:

A. Work is near completion. Estimated delivery date for the batting cages is June 29, 2023.

B. Payment Estimates 1 & 2, Engineering Agreement, and CFA Payment Request Form have all been fully executed by Township and in route to Gibson Thomas Engineering for review and submitting to CFA requesting reimbursement.

A resident inquired about Davis Road. Mr. Petros stated reported that Gibson Thomas Engineering is working on a drainage easement and defined swale construction.

Public Comment on Agenda Items Only

Frank Sever Jr. asked about the Land Bank. Will the Township be dealing with the other blighted properties also? He says the Ordinance Officer informed him that the house behind Mr. Sever's is in the hands of the Supervisors regarding the Land Bank. He then stated that the Bruno Field sign is overgrown with weeds and poison ivy and asked about Crabapple Pool. Mr. Petros explained that American Leak Detection was not able to come out until late last year. We had to wait until we could put the water on at the park this year to look into repairing the leak.

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

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meetings held on March 20, 2023 and April 19, 2023. Voting: Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, 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	\$ 119.98

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to disburse 2022 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Rillton Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

RDR Technologies – firefighting foam (reimbursement to Rillton VFC)	\$ 1,899.00
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Voting: Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to disburse 2022 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Hutchinson Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Glick Fire Equipment Co. – tool mounting on new truck	\$ 16,428.99
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Voting: Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to permanently close the Sewickley Township Recreation Center. Voting: Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Bill Dull made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to contact Westmoreland County agencies, including but not limited to, the Westmoreland County Redevelopment Authority and the Westmoreland County Land Bank, to request assistance with having the Recreation Building in Herminie demolished with the use of available public funds or grants. Voting: Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 13208 to 13224 - \$ 32,592.81 (5/17/23)
 Checks 13225 to 13245 - \$ 44,934.20 (6/2/23)
 Check 13246 - \$ 106,943.40 (6/9/23)
 Checks 13247 to 13272 - \$59,569.99 (6/14/23)

MAWC - \$ 185.85 (6/19/23)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$185.85 (5/17/23)

MAWC - \$ 62.13 (5/17/23)
 First Energy (8 invoices) - \$ 491.71 (5/26/23)
 Columbia Gas - \$ 107.52 (6/5/23)
 First Energy - \$ 43.40 (6/7/23)
 S & T Loan - \$3,168.58 (6/15/23)
 MAWC - \$ 62.14 (6/19/23)

Act 13:

Check 1163 - \$ 300.00 (5/17/23)
 Checks 1164 to 1165 - \$ 20,120.22 (6/14/23)

ARPA:

Check 1002 - \$ 166,859.60 (5/18/23)

Crabapple:

Checks 4979 to 4981 - \$ 351.46 (5/17/23)
 Checks 4982 to 4984 - \$ 1,167.05 (6/2/23)
 Checks 4985 to 4991 - \$ 1,792.04 (6/14/23)

First Energy - \$ 100.99 (5/11/23)
 Credit Card Machine Fee - \$ 46.45 (6/12/23)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 90.03 (5/17/23)
 MAWC - \$ 10.33 (5/17/23)
 First Energy - \$ 47.75 (5/26/23)
 First Energy - \$ 19.80 (5/26/23)
 First Energy - \$ 121.57 (6/7/23)
 First Energy - \$ 100.99 (6/7/23)
 MAWC - \$ 120.32 (6/19/23)
 MAWC - \$ 61.95 (6/19/23)

Liquid Fuels:

Check 539 - \$ 33,576.69 (5/17/23)
 Check 540 - \$ 1,804.00 (6/14/23)

Payroll / Paychex ACH Liabilities:

Paychex - \$ 140.10 (5/19/23)
 Paychex - \$ 128.79 (5/22/23)
 Paychex - \$ 140.10 (5/26/23)
 Paychex - \$ 136.45 (6/2/23)
 Paychex - \$ 241.90 (6/9/23)
 Paychex - \$ 159.45 (6/16/23)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,303.98 (5/19/23)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,030.35 (5/26/23)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,607.93 (6/2/23)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,727.62 (6/9/23)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,489.14 (6/16/23)
 Paychex - \$ 128.79 (6/20/23)

Recreation:

Check 3009 - \$ 50.00 (5/17/23)
 Checks 3010 - \$ 188.38 (6/2/23)

MAWC - \$ 30.98 (6/19/23)
 MAWC - \$ 123.90 (6/19/23)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 123.90 (5/17/23)
 MAWC - \$ 30.97 (5/17/23)
 First Energy - \$ 18.70 (5/24/23)
 First Energy - \$ 266.52 (5/26/23)
 First Energy - \$ 13.94 (5/26/23)
 Columbia Gas - \$ 48.56 (6/5/23)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,637.25 (6/2/23)
 First Energy - \$ 628.19 (6/5/23)
 First Energy - \$ 395.21 (6/5/23)

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

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

Employees Payroll: 5/26/2023 - \$ 9,130.08
6/2/2023 - \$ 8,705.30
6/9/2023 - \$ 8,919.29
6/16/2023 - \$ 14,647.39
6/23/2023 - \$ 9,185.58

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

General Public Comment

Scott Keteles of the Crystal Ballroom thanked whoever cleaned up the trash across from their parking lot. He informed the Supervisors of cars that are not tagged and a hearse that is out of inspection. The alley is being blocked by cars and a utility trailer. It is unsafe and limits people getting in and out of his parking lot.

Jason McWilliams believes the zoning in the Township needs revisited as he believes it has been eighteen (18) years since. For instance, Rural Residential zoning still allows for commercial buildings in between residential lots. There should be buffer zones.

Darlene McWilliams added that there are two (2) blind bends where the driveway of this commercial building would be coming out of. This is on Mars Hill Road near Almond Street and Scott Haven Road. This is just one instance and needs to be looked at Township wide.

Heather Bocan stated that the property in question is listed as special exemption zoning. She believes it is abusing that definition as it should be for small businesses out of the home. Not a major commercial building.

Mrs. Harvey responded that in 2002, she was part of a group that helped develop the Comprehensive Plan for the Township. Regarding commercial buildings, they wanted to make sure that whatever business was established, that there would be green space surrounding it to keep the rural feel.

Trace Bocan stated that they moved out of North Huntingdon and into Sewickley Township because of the rural nature and then they see a proposed Dollar General at the end of their street. How do we prevent a commercial venture of that size from coming into the community? Mr. Petros responded that this needs to be looked into.

Chris Reuss introduced herself as the new President of the Herminie Business League (Business and Civic Association). Regarding the zoning on Sewickley Avenue, it is Mixed Residential which means it is not only businesses, but now are being changed into houses. It is hard to get businesses to come into town. She then asked the Board of Supervisors if they would be interested in redoing the Comprehensive Plan. This could help in the revitalization of the Township.

Jason Capenos reiterated his thoughts on building a new Recreation Center behind the Bruno Field complex. This would bring more people deeper into the Township rather than just to the edge in Rillton. He also believes the "No Truck" signs should be changed to "Truck Route" signs in and around Herminie.

Norma Wunder needs a street light outage reported. Mrs. Leukhardt stated she will reach out to West Penn Power with the information Mrs. Wunder provided. She then asked about a Community Clean Up Day as in residents putting items on curb to be picked up. Mr. Petros stated that maybe have a dumpster day at Bruno Field. She then asked what happens after a property is condemned. Also, the grass isn't cut at the canoe launch on Lowber Road.

Madison Hinkle of the Mountain Watershed Association. Update attached.

Teresa Dubich asked if any type of recreation facilities are being planned for Rillton. There used to be a playground, ballfield, and pavilion. Mr. Petros agrees that something needs to be put on the Project 70 property.

Old / New Business

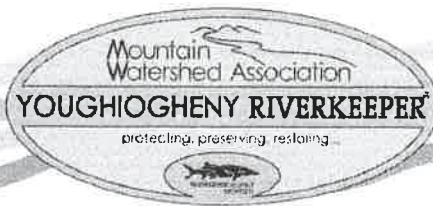
As part of Sewickley Township's clean storm water program, we would like to remind everyone that our storm water inlets, curbs and gutters, drainage ditches and storm pipes discharge into the Sewickley Creek or the Youghiogheny River which are used for fishing, boating, and swimming. In order to help improve the quality of our river and creek, we remind residents and businesses to please do not discard grass clippings, used oil, paints, solvents, or other wastes into the storm drains. Maintain the grass height in your yard at no less than three (3) inches. Longer grass is healthier, retains more moisture, and requires less fertilizer. If using fertilizers or pesticides, always follow the directions and never apply immediately before a rainstorm. If draining your pool, allow your pool to dechlorinate first by keeping it uncovered and waiting at least ten days after its last chlorination to allow the chlorine to dissipate in the air. Then have the pool drain into a grassy area. Pick up after your pet. Don't let pet waste lie in the streets or alleyways where they can get washed into the storm drain. Wash your vehicle in an area where the dirty wash water will not run directly into a storm inlet. Preferably, wash your vehicle at a car wash or in a grassy or gravel area. Properly dispose of used motor oil, oil-based paints, solvents, household cleaners, and other hazardous household chemicals. We remind residents and businesses that it is illegal to dispose of these chemicals in the Township's storm inlets. Go to www.dep.pa.gov/stormwatermgmt for more information. Together we can protect and preserve a very important resource of our community.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 6:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mark Petros made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bill Dull. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Dull, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm.



Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer



Sewickley Township: Westmoreland County

Your Local Watershed Update: June 2023

- Protective Ordinances: Sewickley Township residents living within proximity to MAX Hazardous Waste Facility are not protected by South Huntingdon ordinances
 - Potential for a joint municipal agreement to be established
- Signs: Working with a private landowner to post signage at MAX Outfall 001 and Fishing Access area to bring awareness to the hazardous waste outfall. Signs will include information including but not limited to:
 - WARNING: Hazardous waste discharge point or downstream warning
 - Include MAX NPDES Permit Number and content
 - QR code to MWA/MAX information
 - DEP Complaint Hotline
- Lake at Crabapple Park: MWA conducted water quality sampling of the lake at Crabapple Park
 - Results: High levels of total dissolved solids, and slightly elevated pH and levels of iron
 - Next steps: connect MWA staff with the Recreation Director
- Swimmable Waters Sampling: MWA continued to conduct weekly water sampling at the Sewickley Canoe Launch for the presence of harmful E. Coli
 - As of June 14th, the Sewickley Canoe Launch "failed" to pass the swimmable waters requirements
 - Let Maddie Hinkle know if there are additional popular recreation areas in the Township that should be monitored