

Chairman Alan Fossi on Wednesday, December 17, 2014 at 7:00pm in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building called the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Alan Fossi, Wanda Layman, and Joe Kerber. Also attending the meeting were Marianne Errett, Tom Byrnes, Av Mayers, Jim Balog, Gary Grimm, Marlene Hoey, Dave Hoey, Linda Harvey, Brian Merdian, Adam Whalen, Chris Bova, Norman Vinsick, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Sandy Dull, Tom Lord, Mike Stangroom, State Representative Ted Harhai, Janet Schork, Dean Zimmerman, Mike Volpe, Dan Hewitt, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mr. Fossi led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Public Works Director, Mike Volpe

Pipe installation project was completed on Van Kirk Road. Asphalt patching on ditch line was completed. Two snow removal call outs. Christmas decorations were installed in Herminie. Shoulder restoration was started on Scott Haven Road. Asphalt swale was installed on Scott Haven Road. Fall hot mix paving program continued. It is now suspended until Spring. Roads completed: Maple and Reservoir. Roads Base Course Installed: McGrew Hill, Cool Springs, and Curry. Monthly vehicle inspections and repairs were completed as required: Bucket truck for state inspection, hydraulic hoses replaced on Gradall, Backhoe taken to dealership for warranty work, Widener attachment was rebuilt, lights and brakes were repaired on the roller trailer, emergency brake was repaired on Dump #1. Sign repairs were completed as required. Road opening inspections and one calls were done as required. Pothole patching was done as required. Repairs were done to the Shaner Road Bridge and road was reopened. Request from the Sewickley Watershed Association for help to install pull off pad.

Wanda Layman made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi, to have the Township Road Crew install a pull off area for the Sewickley Watershed Association located at the end near Lowber VFC. The Township will also provide one load of stone. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Dean Zimmerman

Over the last month, I have continued to work on junk motor vehicles, primarily in the Rillton and Herminie areas, as well as property maintenance violations. We had two burning violations recently that were a bit out of the ordinary. Both residents were burning on a Saturday which is allowed. However, one burn pile re-kindled in the middle of the night and caught the adjacent woods on fire causing a fire department response. Those folks were very lucky as the fire only burned a trampoline and some children's toys in the yard in addition to the woods. If the wind had been blowing the other direction, their house probably would have caught on fire. Anytime you burn outdoors, it is very important to make sure your fire is completely extinguished before you walk away from it. The second fire contained insulation and possibly treated wood, neither of which are allowed to be burned. Not only is that a violation of the Sewickley Township Code, but it could also bring in the DEP if a complaint is filed with that agency by a resident.

As I reported last month, I had four Summary Trials scheduled for this month in the District Court. On December 3rd, one individual was in compliance and was found not guilty. The other one failed to appear, was found guilty in absentia, and fined \$300.00 plus Court costs. On December 11th, the woman failed to appear, was found guilty in her absence, and also fined \$300.00 plus Court costs. The fourth trial is tomorrow morning. All four of those hearings were either continuances from before or are repeat offenders I had in Court before. I have filed new criminal complaints on two repeat offenders and am waiting for trial dates on those. Judge Christner informed me last Thursday that one of the folks that had an outstanding arrest warrant was picked up by the Sheriff's Department, entered a guilty plea, and was fined \$300.00 plus Court costs. That leaves two cases with outstanding warrants, one that lives in Pittsburgh and the other is from out of state.

As some of you may have noticed there is another building on Sewickley Avenue in Herminie that has been condemned. The owner of that building lives out of state and our building inspector is handling that case. There will be a meeting scheduled sometime in January with the County Redevelopment Authority

to discuss the properties we have in the Land Bank and Demolition Programs with that agency to get an update on the status of those properties.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Park & Pool

- Our 10% Holiday Special at Crabapple Park & Pool is available now through January 31. The discount applies to all season passes, pool parties, and pavilion rentals. Application forms available online, recreation center, township office (we accept cash, check, Visa, MasterCard and Discovery)
- The Christmas Greens Sale Fundraiser was held Saturday, November 22 and Sunday, November 23 at Crabapple Park.
 - We raised enough money to fund a park project this spring. Project TBD.
 - Thank you to Alan for all of his hard work harvesting, assembling, and selling the Christmas Greens.

Recreation Center:

- Everything going well at the recreation center. Monday, Wednesday, Friday mornings full. Weekday Evening rentals from 4 in the afternoon until 10pm at night. Sundays booked solid from 10am-10pm and Saturdays are filled with clinics and birthday party rentals. So we are happily very busy.
- Recreation Board Activities:
 - Open Gym continue on Wednesdays from 6p-8p. We continue to have good attendance with an average of 30 kids participating.
 - The Annual Community Christmas Party was on Sunday. We had approximately 75 attend. 50 children and 25 adults enjoyed a magician, crafts, face painting, pizza, cookies and a special visit from Mr. & Mrs. Santa. It went very well.
 - Our first Recreation Dance is on Saturday, January 31
 - Sports Clinics:
 - Our Basketball clinic for ages 4-9 started on Saturday December 6. We 21 participating.

Playground:

- We have received a grant from Game Time in the amount of \$22,000 for a playground. Tentatively, it is to be constructed in the spring of 2015 in Hutchinson.

2nd Annual River Plunge:

- Once again township supervisor, Alan Fossi, will be braving the frigid waters of the Yough River for his 2nd annual river plunge to raise money for Crabapple Park & Pool. His chilly dip will take place January 1 at Connellsville Park, Connellsville, PA. Please support Alan in the form of a donation. 2014 & 2015 Donors will be recognized on a banner to be displayed at Crabapple Pool. All proceeds will go to directly fund Crabapple Park and Pool Projects.

Report from Mike Stangroom, Director of Sewickley Township Community Ambulance Service

Mr. Stangroom gave an overview of the state of the Sewickley Township Community Ambulance Service. Since the reorganization, the employees have gotten back their benefits package. In January, they almost lost their tax exempt status. With much filing of paperwork, the tax exempt status is good again. All tax returns have been filed. Replaced two of the ambulances with a good, used vehicle and the other with a brand new ambulance. No balance is owed on these. They received two federal grants to get two power stretchers and seven miniters. State Rep Ted Harhai helped them get a state fire grant in the amount of \$5,700. They received \$2,500 from the Westinghouse Grant. They rebranded... changed the logo on shirts, ambulances, etc. The organization is very sound right now. Tom Byrnes asked who does the grant writing. Mr. Stangroom says they have a team in-house that does them. Brian Merdian asked how many employees do they have. 22 employees with six being full time and the rest part time. They run a crew and a half a day. Norm Vinsick asked if they have an outside auditor. No, they have a Controller. He is a full time professor and they wouldn't be where they are without him.

Mr. Fossi said they are doing a great job. What's in the past is in the past. What they have accomplished in the past year, is way beyond his expectations.

Mr. Stangroom said it is a team effort and thanked them also.

State Representative Ted Harhai

He announced that he closed his office in Herminie due to the logistics of redistricting. It has caused him to attack the central part of his district from Mt. Pleasant, Monesson, and Jeannette. He was only getting less than five people coming into the office in Herminie. He asks the Supervisors to use this building so he or his staff may meet with Residents locally when needed. The Supervisors have no problem with that at all. He appreciates working with the Sewickley Township Supervisors and thanks them. Mr. Fossi thanked him for his presence. He was the only Elected State Official that had an office located in the Township.

Linda Harvey asked what number do the residents call if they need him. He can be reached at his other offices no problem.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meetings held on January 15, 2014 and February 19, 2014 as reviewed. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Tom Lord asked about the road signs for Wolfe Lane, one on each end of it. He said Brad Tomko brought it up at the last meeting. The Supervisors and Mr. Volpe do not recollect it being brought up. Mr. Volpe will check it out.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to disburse 2013 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lower Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

S & T Bank – mortgage payment	\$ 602.25
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Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to adopt Ordinance 2014-4 to continue the Township's participation in the PSATS Unemployment Compensation Group Trust pursuant to the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Law. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to adopt Ordinance 2014-5 establishing the assessment for the cost and expense of the maintenance of street lighting in the Herminie, Rillton, Lower, and Sutersville Light Districts of the Township for fiscal year 2015 at the following rates (this is not an increase from the previous year):

Herminie
Improved Property – Eighty-Four cents per front foot
Vacant Property – Twenty-One cents per front foot

Rillton
Improved Property – Fifty-two cents per front foot
Vacant Property – Thirteen cents per front foot

Lowber
Improved Property – Ninety-two cents per front foot
Vacant Property – Twenty-three cents per front foot

Sutersville
Improved Property – Sixty-four cents per front foot
Vacant Property – Sixteen cents per front foot

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to adopt Ordinance 2014-6 establishing the General Fund Budget for the Township of Sewickley for the fiscal year 2015. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the Galante-Bedrick Subdivision located on Highland Avenue between Sixth and Eighth Streets. Lot 1 consisting of .69 acres contains a mobile home and Lot 2 has .82 acres with an existing house. Both parcels have public water and sewage. The zoning designation is V-1. This plan transfers 1,587 square feet containing a storage shed from Lot 2 to Lot 1 and has been approved by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the settlement of pending litigation with the Jeannette EMS company with a single lump-sum payment of \$10,000. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the required Resolution amending the Sewickley Township Act 537 Plan for the Waltz Mill Industrial Park project. Approval subject to the amendment of the application submitted to reflect the comments submitted by the Township Engineer on December 12, 2014. Solicitor Comments: Mr. Hewitt stated that the Waltz Mill Project requires an Act 537 Plan Modification. The Township Engineer has reviewed it, changes were incorporated, and approved this amendment. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve a contract with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels through December 31, 2015 at the rate \$150.00 per month for twelve (12) months paid by the Township. Overtime calls will be charged at the rate of \$60.00 per call. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to renew Property and Casualty Coverage for all Sewickley Fire Companies with Varine-Slavin using Selective at the premiums below. Policy is effective from December 18, 2014 to December 18, 2015.

Herminie Fire Company:	\$ 11,995.00
Lowber Fire Company:	\$ 10,875.00
Rillton Fire Company:	\$ 10,091.00
Hutchinson Fire Company:	\$ 10,798.00

Board Comments: Mr. Kerber asked if there was an increase from last year. Mrs. Leukhardt stated very minimal except for Hutchinson VFC. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to accept Dawna Kavel's resignation as Sewickley Township Auditor effective immediately. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to appoint Gary Grimm as Township Auditor. The appointment will run until January, 2016 with the position to be on the election ballot in the municipal elections of 2015. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Wanda Layman made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to advertise the Reorganization Meeting for the Board of Supervisors to be held on Monday, January 5, 2015 at 7:00pm located at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to establish the regular monthly meeting location for the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building, 2288 Mars Hill Road, Irwin PA 15642. The dates on which the Board of Supervisors shall meet will be the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm with the exception of January, 2015 and to advertise the same in the Times-Sun and Tribune Review in accordance with the Sunshine Law. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to ratify an expenditure of Act 13 funds in the amount of \$37,935.92. This is Sewickley Township's portion of a grant to purchase playground equipment. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve Susan Leukhardt, Paula Alcott, and Janet Schork to carry over any unused benefit time from 2014 into 2015. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to close the Township Office on the following days and hours during the Holiday season.

Wednesday, December 24 th :	closing at noon
Thursday, December 25 th :	closed
Wednesday, December 31 st :	closing at noon
Thursday, January 1 st :	closed

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the following bills for payment.

General Fund:	Checks 6685 to 6699 - \$ 14,154.74 (11/25/14)
	Drafts 150110 to 150111 - \$ 1,067.75 (11/26/14)
	Checks 6700 to 6714 - \$ 14,637.13 (12/4/14)
	Check 6715 - \$ 3,200.45 (12/4/14)
	Checks 6716 to 6717 - \$ 345.96 (12/4/14)
	Checks 6718 to 6743 - \$ 9,645.39 (12/11/14)
Crabapple:	Draft 62 - \$ 210.24 (11/25/14)
	Checks 4164 to 4165 - \$ 119.16 (12/4/14)
Payroll Invoices:	Draft 90220 - \$ 668.61 (11/12/14)

Checks 3710 to 3714 - \$ 3,954.30 (11/25/14)
Draft 90221 - \$ 10,998.89 (11/25/14)
Draft 90222 - \$ 565.86 (11/25/14)
Check 3719 - \$ 49.26 (12/4/14)
Check 3724 - \$ 49.26 (12/11/14)
Draft 90223 - \$ 870.44 (12/11/14)

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the following payrolls for payment.

Employees Payroll:

11/26/14 - \$ 10,278.24 – checks 3707 to 3709 , drafts 24478 to 24489
12/5/14 - \$ 15,609.85 – checks 3715 to 3718 , drafts 24490 to 24501
12/12/14 - \$ 15,020.96 – checks 3720 to 3723 , drafts 24502 to 24513
12/19/14 - \$ 10,554.04 – checks 3725 to 3727 , drafts 24514 to 24525

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

New / Old Business

Linda Harvey asked where the playground will be. Mr. Fossi stated tentatively Hutchinson but the Supervisors want to talk to the residents of Hutchinson first. They may or may not want it. Mrs. Layman said they are also looking at Rillton.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season!

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Wanda Layman. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber; yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer