

Chairman Brian Merdian on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building called the Regular Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order as advertised in the Tribune Review on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Brian Merdian, Joseph Kerber, and Alan Fossi. Also attending the meeting were Terry Stafford, Kathy Kerber, James Balog, Jim Harvey, Linda Harvey, Marianne Errett, Tracy Hampshire, Mark Petros, John Seanor, Lori Jones, Wayne Jones, Chip Payne, Attorney Kansler, Janet Schork and Erika Horvat.

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

An Executive Session was held on January 31, 2017 at 9:00am to discuss personnel matters.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

Since last month's meeting we have replaced all storm pipes on Slaughter Hollow Road. It is now open to all traffic. A storm pipe and catch box was replaced on Evans Street that was destroyed from the contractor when they put sewage in. A storm pipe was replaced on Shaner Hill Road and Shuglie Hill Road. The road crew was out four days doing cold patching. The road crew was called out eight times for plowing and salting. We've been working on keeping the storm drains opened from snow melting, heavy rains and all the trees and limbs falling from the wind storms. On January 24th I represented the Township in court. We used approximately 1100 tons of salt and approximately 1100 tons of anti-skid so far this winter.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Bill Hause, given by Supervisor Brian Merdian

Since our last meeting I have been handling the usual complaints of junk motor vehicles around the township. I have been working with the state police and residents to correct these problems. I have been in contact with the nuisance property owners in the township, which whom I've sent letters to, and most of them are making progress with their issues. Research is being done on a problem property in Lowber and hopefully we can get the owners to cooperate and bring this property into compliance. Please remember when parking to leave room for the snow plows. I've had to tag several vehicles throughout the township because the plows could not get through the roadways.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Recreation Center:

- All going well at the recreation center with rentals remaining steady with no problems.
- Our Jump Start indoor soccer program started on Saturday, February 4. We have 21 participants.
- Open Gym is every Wednesday, from 4:30-5:30 now through the end of March
- Yoga/Fitness Classes
 - Steady stream of participants in the classes. With sessions offered Monday – Saturday.
 - The baseboard heaters were installed by Don Bixby and Todd Miller free of charge. So, thank you to Don and Todd for their generosity!
 - There are rental times available for anyone interested in using the room. The room can hold up to 14 participants.
- 7 Springs and Hidden Valley Ski Discount Tickets
 - Discount tickets are still available through mid-March by calling or emailing me.

Board of Township Supervisors' Winter Newsletter:

- Work is almost completed on the newsletter to be sent to all Sewickley Township Residents.
- We look to have it in our residents' mailbox by March 1st.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

- The recreation board has set the annual Easter egg hunt for Saturday, April 15, Noon to be held at the Bruno Field Complex at the baseball and football fields.
- Easter Bunny will be available at 11:30
- For children ages Infant – 12
- Pre-registration is required

Mrs. Harvey asked Janet for an update on the newsletter. Janet stated it is almost completed and at the boards level for approval. Once we get the approval we will get it mailed hopefully next week. Mrs. Harvey asked if we are going to do a quarterly newsletter. Janet stated we are probably looking at twice a year. Once we get the template done and the cost for printing and mailing, the next one will go a lot simpler and in more of a timely fashion.

Mrs. Jones wanted to announce that they are looking into have a person come in and teach art classes for children. This person has a teaching degree in art and childhood education. We would like to rent the room in front of Janet's office.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meetings held on the following dates as reviewed:

December 16, 2016
January 18, 2017

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting held on January 3, 2017 as reviewed. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Terry Stafford would like to thank Joe for the Watch Children sign he put up on Oak Creek Drive. It has slowed some of the traffic down. However, we were to resolve the issue on Church Street with the sewage drains and the erosion of my property. Mr. Kerber stated we have roads that are closed right now and we are working on getting those opened. We have a guy off and are a little shorthanded. It is on my list of things to do. Mr. Kerber stated we will have to look into getting permission from you to come on private property. Mr. Stafford stated that I will grant you that permission.

John Seanor commented on the new rates for garbage service. He asked why couldn't take a list of all the delinquents and make them public knowledge. We do it for taxes and other things. Why should I have to pay for the people who don't pay? Mr. Merdian stated that this is something we can look into legally and see if this is something we could do. Mr. Seanor stated that it might bring some attention to those not paying and maybe we could then bring some of that delinquent money in. A resident asked about the senior citizen rates and how they are so high. They asked if there is any way we could negotiate. Mr. Merdian stated that we put this up for bid. The bids came in in a competitive way. If you look at the guy that was bidding second, you would have to add another eight dollars to these rates.

Lori Jones had a question on the motion to use Act 13, Impact funds on rock salt. Since Act 13 is not in the budget, how would we know what you are spending it on? Mr. Merdian stated that purchasing rock salt is one of the thirteen things allowed to be purchased by Impact Funds. Act 13 money is categorized outside of the general fund budget. This is why it is on the agenda. It is not for general use and we categorized it as it's supposed to be.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lowber Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Kush Kustom Auto & Restoration – repair and replace lights	\$ 265.00
Westmoreland Community College – training	<u>\$ 1,160.00</u>
	\$ 1,425.00

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Creekside Graphics – office door decals	\$ 90.00
PSATS – membership fee	<u>\$ 125.00</u>
	\$ 215.00

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to enter into a Participation Agreement with DGS Costars for the purchase of salt for the 2017-2018 season. Estimated tonnage for the 2017-2018 purchase shall be 2,000 ton. We will be required to purchase a minimum of 60% to a maximum of 140% the estimated tonnage. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to receive proposals for approximately 3,500 ton of Type II anti-skid materials. The advertisement shall be published in Tribune Review on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 and Tuesday February 28, 2017. Sealed proposals shall be received until 10:00am on Monday, March 13, 2017 and opened at that same date and time. Proposals shall be read aloud and recorded at the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to be held Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 7:00pm. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to receive proposals for the following items:

- A. The purchase of the annual requirements of catch basins with “M” top and bicycle grates.
- B. The purchase of the annual requirements of plastic pipe and fittings.
- C. The purchase of the annual requirement of dust oil, emulsified asphalt, aggregate, blacktop products and bituminous patching material.

The advertisement shall be published in Tribune Review on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 and Tuesday, February 28, 2017. Sealed proposals shall be received until 10:00am on Monday, March 13, 2017 and opened at that same date and time. Proposals shall be read aloud and recorded at the Regular Monthly Meeting of the Board of Supervisors to be held Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 7:00pm. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to receive proposals for Lawn Care Services, the cutting and trimming of the following locations, when the height of the grass is a limit of four inches:

- a) Township Building lawn
- b) Recreation Center lawn
- c) Recreation Center bank facing Pike Street
- d) Guffey Cemetery
- e) Quaker Cemetery
- f) Shaner Honor Roll
- g) The Project 70 property located at the Sewickley Township Volunteer Fire Company No. 3 (Rillton)
- h) Reservoir Road Cemetery
- i) Lowber Playground (inside and outside of fence)
- j) 24 Highland Avenue, Herminie
- k) Township Property located on Cameron Avenue, Hutchinson
- l) Hutchinson Playground
- m) Township Property located at the corner of Pike Street

These locations will be bid as a whole. One Lawn Care Service for all locations.

The Contractor shall be responsible for fuel, equipment, and Workers Compensation and Liability Insurance.

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Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to receive proposals for Lawn Care Services, the cutting and trimming of the following locations, when the height of the grass is a limit of three inches:

- a) John C. Bruno Memorial Football Field
- b) All baseball and softball fields
- c) Crabapple Park

These locations will be bid as a whole. One Lawn Care Service for all locations.

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Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to receive proposals for Lawn Care Services, the cutting and trimming of the following locations, when the height of the grass is a limit of four inches:

- a) The former Herminie Reservoir property located on Highland Avenue
- b) Keystone Playground
- c) Township Property located at the corner of Pike Street and Elk Street, Herminie

Note: The above said properties are currently for sale. Proposals for these properties must be provided as an individual "price per cut". If the property should sell during the contract period, payment will be issued for the cuttings completed by the date of sale and the contract will be terminated.

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Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to use Act 13 Impact Fee funds made payable to American Rock Salt in the amount of \$ 30,605.72. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the solicitor to prepare and advertise an ordinance entering Sewickley Township into an Intergovernmental agreement with Penn Dot. This will allow electronic access to Engineering and Construction Management Systems for the purpose of submitting documents necessary to design and construct transportation projects. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to consent to the request from the Westmoreland County Tax Claim Bureau for the potential sale of Tax Map Parcel No. 58-07-03-0-032 from the Unsold Property Repository. The location of this property is 116 Markle Street, Herminie. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

A letter was received from the following resident regarding the waiving of residential garbage service due to the property being vacant.

Stephan Miller
247 Volk Drive
Irwin, PA 15642

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to waive the above resident's residential garbage service and all bills relating to garbage pickup through Waste Management. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve changes to the employee handbook that further define employee hours of work and provide a process to address employees' failure to report to work. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize Sewickley Area Business and Civic Association the use of Bruno Field on Saturday August 5, 2017 for their annual Community Day and to reject their request to serve alcohol. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Sewickley Township Recreation Board use of the Bruno Field and all Baseball Fields on Saturday April 15, 2017 for their annual Easter Egg Hunt. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to advertise for summer employment at Crabapple Pool. Positions include lifeguards, concession, and managers. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify Janet Schork to work over her allotted hours on the payroll dates of January 27, February 3, and February 10, 2017. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:	Checks 8400 to 8406 - \$ 24,416.88 (1/26/17) Checks 8407 to 8418 - \$ 8,095.75 (2/2/17) Checks 8419 to 8429 - \$ 3,515.44 (2/7/17) Checks 8430 to 8435 - \$ 4,181.74 (2/8/17) Checks 8436 to 8465 - \$ 13,674.16 (2/15/17) ACH Payments: First Energy \$ 674.98 (1/27/17) First Energy \$ 61.97 (1/30/17) Columbia Gas \$ 226.95 (2/9/17)
Light Districts:	ACH Payment - \$3,108.16 (2/3/17)
Crabapple:	Checks 4419 to 4421 - \$ 657.41 (1/20/17) Checks 4422 to 4423 - \$ 137.57 (2/2/17)
Highway Aid	Check 452 - \$ 3,478.20 (11/17/16) Check 455 - \$ 16,086.74 (2/1/17) Check 456 - \$ 6,607.70 (2/1/17) Check 457 - \$ 17,814.51 (2/1/17)
Payroll Invoices:	Checks 4808 to 4810 - \$ 2,293.48 (1/26/17) Checks 4814 to 4815 - \$ 411.37 (2/8/17)

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

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

Employees Payroll:	1/27/17 - \$ 9,862.85 2/3/17 - \$ 11,618.77 2/10/17 - \$ 10,215.71 2/17/17 - \$ 12,641.49
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Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

New / Old Business

Mr. Merdian stated that he would like along with Attorney Kansler and the other Supervisors, to look into placing liens on abandoned properties when we have to go out and perform mowing services. With what the cost the Township has to incur because of this, I would like to look into updating our ordinance. Attorney Kansler stated according to our Ordinance as written states that we can charge a ten percent fee, however it does not allow us to put a lien on the property. It's something that we can do but we would need to change our code to do so.

Mr. Merdian also wanted to point out he and Mr. Fossi attended a meeting at Yough High School and one of the things the Superintendent wanted us to relay to the public is they are having their annual Drug Symposium this year at the Yough Middle School on April 6th from 6pm to 9pm. They will be having guest speakers from Excelsa Health, Police, drug counselors, and new this year the students will be presenting reports on their research they have done on drug abuse.

Mr. Merdian would like to give thanks of appreciation to our first responders for the way they handled the severe accident on route 70 Monday night. The highway was closed for a couple of hours and life flight was landed on the highway by some of our first responders. A resident stated that some of our guys didn't get home in till 6:30 am the next morning.

Mrs. Jones wanted to be clear on having alcohol at Community Days. She stated that they will have their own insurance. Mr. Merdian stated that we will not permit the sale of alcohol on Township property at all.

Mr. Balog asked what the process is when someone files an appeal and when was he to be notified? Mr. Merdian stated that the next step is to have Mike Stack go out to investigate the property, and report back to the Zoning Board. If a hearing is needed we will notify you.

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Fossi. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Erika Horvat
Secretary-Treasurer