

Chairman Alan Fossi on Wednesday, October 15, 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 Marlene Hoey, Dave Hoey, Brian Merdian, Av Mayers, Tom Byrnes, Gene Suskalo, Norm Vinsick, Matt Janzef, Judy Janzef, Tracy Hampshire, Kathy Kerber, Gary Grimm, Steve Solomon, John Fedorko, George Lord, Jack McWilliams, Sandy Dull, Amber Kline, Janet Schork, Dean Zimmerman, Dan Hewitt, and Susan Leukhardt.

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

Report from Township Solicitor, Dan Hewitt

Earlier this year, the elected Auditors of Sewickley Township submitted their required report on the review of Township funds and accounts. That report did, however, question Township expenditures for vehicle fuel over the past several years. The records reviewed by the Auditors reflected, in their opinion, some significant increases in these expenditures which they could not fully document and track. The concerns of the Auditors were reported to me as part of my responsibilities as the municipal solicitor under Article XI of the Second Class Township Code.

After I reviewed the Auditors' report and appropriate Township records, I referred this matter to the Westmoreland County detectives' office for full investigation of the Township fuel expenditures to insure that there was no criminal activity involved with these public funds. At the same time, the Township implemented new procedural and record-keeping policies in order to better track, document and account for which employee was obtaining fuel for which piece of Township equipment.

After an investigation taking several months, the detectives' office and the Westmoreland County DA's office have determined that there was no evidence upon which criminal charges could be filed. All of the investigators involved also indicated that they were satisfied that the new policies and procedures now in place should work to alleviate the concerns originally expressed by the Auditors and the accounting difficulties noted in their investigation.

Based upon the findings of this investigation by the County, I am pleased to report to the Board of Supervisors that the matter has been resolved with no indication of criminal activity affecting public funds.

Report from Township Supervisor, Joe Kerber

Mr. Kerber stated that Mr. Fossi and Mrs. Layman named him as the person who stole the fuel to a number of people in the Community. Mr. Kerber is very disappointed about this and is asking for a public apology by the next meeting. He requests it to be put in the Tribune Review and Times Sun with no less than a quarter page ad. If they decide not to, he will pursue his options. Furthermore, he thinks someone in this Township needs to be watching the budget. Right now, we are 205% over on overtime and yet we are going to hire another non-working employee.

Sandy Dull asked if the guys are working on Saturdays. Mr. Kerber answered yes. He does not know the reasons they are working overtime on Saturdays.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Dean Zimmerman

As has been the case in the past, the complaints I have received this past month have been about junk motor vehicles and property maintenance with the majority concerning junk motor vehicles. I have continued to work on vehicles in Rillton and Hutchinson as well as the Herminie area. About half of the junk motor vehicles in Rillton that I have been working on have been removed but I still have a lot of work to do there and throughout the Township.

Last Wednesday, Wanda and I attended a meeting at the County Redevelopment Authority offices in Greensburg. All the municipalities that are participating in the County's Land Bank Program were invited to talk about the program and problems that various municipalities are running into. After the regular meeting, we had an opportunity to discuss the properties we feel are good candidates for the land bank. One of the properties we had at the top of the list has not made any progress in the tax sale process since 2008 due to multiple mortgages. Because of that, we have chosen another property to move up the list. Additionally, to the best of my knowledge, and according to the lady that oversees the County's demolition program, we still have two properties that should be demolished this year through that program.

The day after last month's meeting, I had three Summary Trials scheduled as I had reported. When I got to the District Court I was told one of those trials had been rescheduled and is now scheduled for the 21st of this month. The second individual failed to appear but since he had been to Court once and was given time to comply which he did not, Judge Christner found him guilty in abstentia and fined him \$250.00 plus court costs. The other gentleman was found guilty and fined \$300.00 plus court costs. I now have three folks scheduled for trials on the 21st of this month and one on the 22nd. The last one had been given a month to bring his property into compliance. I checked with the District Court staff today and I had five outstanding warrants but found that one of those either turned himself in or was picked up by the Sheriff's Office, he entered a guilty plea in July and was given a \$100.00 fine plus costs.

Mr. Zimmerman was asked about which properties are candidates for the Land Bank. He answered the green house on the corner of Sewickley and Pike and also the old Mike's Bar.

Mr. Suskalo asked about the progress with the junkyard on Scott Haven Road. Mr. Zimmerman spoke with him the other day. He is working on it.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Park & Pool

- Pool final winterizing will be completed at the end of October once baseball season is over and we can turn off the water for the fields, park, and pool

Recreation Center

- The Recreation Center is now open:
 - Once again spots are filling quickly.
 - All weekday evenings are booked
 - Sundays are booked from 9am-8:30pm
 - Saturdays from 8am-noon are reserved for local sports clinics
 - Saturdays from 3-7 are reserved for birthday parties, private rentals as well as recreation board activities
 - Also this year, we are accommodating free the Yough HS Baseball, Basketball, and Soccer teams that are unable to find time at the high school for their practices.

Recreation Board Activities:

- Open Gym/Public Time will start on Wednesday, November 12 from 6pm-8pm
- Our Annual Christmas Party will be on Sunday, December 14 @1pm
- Recreation Dances:
 - January 31, February 28, March 28, April 25
 - This activity is for children Kindergarten thru 6th grade
- Upcoming activities for middle school and high school ages – tentative:
 - Cosmic Bowling
 - Ski Trip
 - Dodge ball Tournament
 - Tubing
- Sports Clinics:

- Volleyball
 - Thursdays October 16-November 20
 - Ages 7-12
- Basketball clinic for age's kindergarten and preschool children and Soccer clinic for ages 3-6 running from December-March on Saturday mornings.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meeting held on December 18, 2013 as reviewed. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Dave Hoey asked for an update on when the work will be started on Van Kirk. Mrs. Layman stated that the pipe has been ordered and should begin in the next couple weeks. They had to finish a few little jobs first so they didn't get pulled away from Van Kirk once they started.

Gene Suskalo asked about the progress being made with the drainage and paving on Scott Haven Road. Mrs. Layman stated that the paving company plan to be here the last week of October. Regarding the drainage, the Supervisors met with the Conservation District. The Conservation District said they can't intervene, but they could talk with the landowners. A resident did come in today and he feels the water may be coming from him. He is taking strides to try to stop some of the water with a pond and a pipe. We are taking it to the Engineer. Mr. Suskalo feels that it's more of an issue than just this resident. He wants to know if drainage will be done before the paving. Mrs. Layman will check into it and get back to him.

Tom Lord asked why the minutes are so behind. Mrs. Leukhardt stated that when they were up to date was when she worked evenings and weekends. Mr. Lord said that Lois had no problem keeping them up to date. Mrs. Leukhardt stated that things have changed in the past six years. He then asked about Falls Road. Mrs. Layman stated that we are behind due to the horrible spring with flooding and we have lost roads. It is on the schedule. He then said there is a huge pothole on Wolfe Lane. Mrs. Layman will let the road crew know.

Amber Kline spoke about Dan Augustine being appointed as Emergency Management Coordinator. She feels this is a conflict of interest by putting in an EMA person who is also a Chief of a fire department. Mrs. Layman asked him about that. He stated that if there is an emergency, his Assistant will handle the fire company issues. Mrs. Kline also stated that he doesn't live in the Township and is a part of another EMA of another borough. Mrs. Layman said he is very qualified.

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to authorize the Solicitor to prepare and advertise for the Township to guaranty the refinancing by MSATS of up to \$371,000 with PNC Bank representing the final balloon payment due under the 2010 Revenue Obligation Note. MSATS Comments: Brian Merdian stated that this was the start up loan for MSATS. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to authorize the submission of the CDBG application for the 2015 calendar year. Paving of the roads targeted are within areas that no Income Surveys are required. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to approve the Goodman Plan Subdivision located on McGrogan Road. The property is zoned R-1 and subdivides Lot 5 containing 1.0 acre from the residual 34 acre parcel that is used for agriculture. There is an existing mobile home on the parcel with on-lot septic and water from a common well located on the residual property. This plan has been approved by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to advertise to sell the 1990 GMC Top Kick Truck. GVW 29,040lbs. 64,012 miles. Truck has broken frame. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

A letter has been received from Jeffrey & Kristin Essay regarding the waiving of garbage service at 216 Hickory Street, Rillton due to them using their business's garbage service which is also picked up by Waste Management.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to waive Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Essay's residential garbage service and all bills relating to garbage pickup through Waste Management. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Wanda Layman made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi, to hire Mike Volpe as the Full Time Public Works Director at the salary of \$50,000 per year for a 90-day probationary term. Comments: Sandy Dull asked if Mr. Volpe has been dismissed from his employment with Hempfield Township. Mr. Fossi stated that he is done there at the end of the year. She then asked if the Township can afford \$50,000/year. Mrs. Layman stated that he will be paid as a whole less than Mr. Kerber. He is salary. Mr. Suskalo asked if he will be in the office or on the road. Mrs. Layman stated that he will take over the management of the guys. He brings a lot of experience to the Township. He is in charge of roads and talking with the residents with issues. He will be on jobsites overseeing the work. He is not under a contract. He will be showing up at the meetings. Mrs. Dull asked if Mr. Kerber applied for the job. Mr. Kerber responded no. He felt it was a useless venture. She feels he would have more of an "in" since he is an elected official. Mr. Kerber feels that he has proven himself over and over through the years. He has also been hired by a construction company and making way more than running this crew. In the past, he feels he was blamed for everything that went wrong and they took credit for what went right. Voting: Mrs. Layman, yes; Mr. Kerber, no; Mr. Fossi, yes. Motion carried.

Wanda Layman made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi, to appoint Dan Augustine as the Permanent Sewickley Township Emergency Management Coordinator effective October 15, 2014. Voting: Mrs. Layman, yes; Mr. Kerber, no; Mr. Fossi, yes. Motion carried.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to authorize the Sewickley Township Auditors to attend "Basic Training for Auditors" on Thursday, November 20, 2014 at the Ramada Hotel in Greensburg. Registration Fee is \$80 per person. Attendees will be paid \$10 per hour for up to eight hours. Mileage will be compensated at the rate of .56 cents per mile. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to authorize the Sewickley Township Zoning Hearing Board to attend "The PMPEI Course in Zoning Administration" on November 5, November 12, and November 19, 2014 at the Ligonier Township Municipal Building. Registration Fee is \$95.00 per person. Mileage will be compensated at the rate of .56 cents per mile. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Wanda Layman, to allow students at HW Good Elementary each year to tie ribbons on the Bruno Field fence in recognition of Red Ribbon Week. This will be an annual event. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:	Checks 6540 to 6575 - \$ 74,655.16 (10/1/14)
	Checks 6576 to 6591 - \$ 10,215.97 (10/8/14)
	Draft 150105 - \$ 7,739.65 (10/8/14)
	Drafts 150106 to 150107 - \$ 858.78 (10/8/14)
	Checks 6592 to 6595 - \$ 34,256.24 (10/13/14)
	Checks 6596 to 6609 - \$ 12,253.27 (10/14/14)
Crabapple:	Checks 4153 to 4154 - \$ 393.98 (10/1/14)
	Checks 4155 to 4156 - \$ 93.93 (10/8/14)
	Draft 60 - \$ 599.90 (10/8/14)
Lights Districts:	Draft 154 - \$ 2,678.37 (10/8/14)
	Draft 155 - \$ 481.77 (10/8/14)
	Draft 156 - \$ 543.11 (10/8/14)
	Draft 157 - \$ 211.21 (10/8/14)
Payroll Invoices:	Checks 3676 to 3677 - \$ 1,863.83 (9/24/14)
	Draft 90214 - \$ 479.52 (9/29/14)
	Draft 90215 - \$ 558.13 (9/29/14)
	Checks 3680 to 3681 - \$ 326.29 (10/1/14)
	Check 3687 - \$ 49.26 (10/8/14)
	Draft 90216 - \$ 8,684.16 (10/8/14)
	Checks 3689 to 3690 - \$ 316.56 (10/14/14)

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

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

Employees Payroll:

9/26/14 - \$ 9,558.72 – checks 3674 to 3675 , drafts 24367 to 24378
10/3/14 - \$ 8,131.21 – checks 3678 to 3679 , drafts 24379 to 24389
10/10/14 - \$ 14,348.93 – checks 3682 to 3686 , drafts 24390 to 24402
10/17/14 - \$ 9,288.18 – check 3688 , drafts 24403 to 24415

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

New / Old Business

The Township Supervisors would like to remind residents that the 2014 Halloween Activities are as follows:

Saturday, October 25, 2014
12:30pm – parade line up at VFW
1:00pm – parade begins at VFW and ends at the Herminie Firehall for judging,
treats, and prizes
3:00pm to 6:00pm – Trick or Treating

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Wanda Layman. Voting: Mrs. Layman, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer