

Chairman Brian Merdian on Wednesday, September 20, 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, Marianne Errett, Wanda Layman, John Cochran, Linda Harvey, Sandy Dull, Margaret Sensue, Tracy Hampshire, Lori Jones, Paul Rupnik, Carol Keller, Glenn Wees, Bob Keller, Kathy Kerber, Ronald Oblak, Mark Petros, Ray Kostrecki, Amber Kline, Janet Schork, Debi Pils, Attorney Kansler and Erika Horvat.

An Executive Session was held on September 20, 2017 at 6:00pm to discuss ongoing legal matters.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

The Road Crew has been out for three days patching Roads. The mowing is complete for the year. Cleaned the ditch on Eighth Street and Sewickley Avenue. Berm repair was done on Shaner Road. Storm pipe and three catch basins were repaired on High Street. The Dust Oil Program is finished for the year. The Streets treated were Oggs Lane, Selbodnik Road, Shuglie Hill, Tolvinsky Road and Rodebaugh Road. The Oil and Chipping Program is done for the year. The roads done were Whyel Road, Pierce Road, Carnegie Road, Taylor Road, Cool Springs Road, and part of Apples Mill Road.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Nick Newcaster, given by Supervisor Brian Merdian

All of the following information has taken place since the last Board of Supervisors Meeting on 08/16/17: Thirteen (13) warning letters were mailed, which pertained to JMV's (Junk Motor Vehicles), high grass, rubbish, burning, and dangerous structures. Four dog complaints were received and forwarded to Animal Control. I have also spoken with several people on the telephone in reference to violations, which resulted in compliance, without having to mail letters. There are currently no tagged JMV's on Township roadways. As stated in last month's minutes, I am dealing with several JMV's being on private property. Since the August meeting, twelve (12) JMV's have been removed from the following areas: Nine (9) in Herminie, and one (1) each in Rillton, Sutersville area, and Hutchinson. Additionally, two (2) JMV's were made road legal. These vehicles were located in Herminie and Hutchinson. The annual County tax sale took place on 09/11/17. The Township is awaiting a final list of properties that were sold. A reminder that burning is permitted on Wednesdays and Saturdays, 6am – 6pm. Unreasonable noise is a violation of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code, Disorderly Conduct section. Please contact the State Police for any violations, since as of now; the Township does not have an Ordinance to address this. As always, if someone has noticed a violation and would like to make a complaint, my extension is 7, which does have voicemail.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

- **Crabapple Pool:**
 - Crabapple Pool is now closed for the season.
 - Although the weather was not very good and we did have a few maintenance issues, attendance was steady and we achieved our number one goal of having no accidents or injuries.
 - Pool manager, Yvonne Shawl, Assistant Pool Managers, Alex Schork, Emily Spisak, and Zack Casagrande, all did an excellent job managing daily operations; also, credit to our maintenance, concession and lifeguard staff --- they were all outstanding.
 - Roger Anthony, Maintenance, has started the pool shutdown. Once fall baseball is over, water can be turned off and we can finish winterizing the pool.
 - As we do at the end of each season, we will evaluate what went right and what we can do next year to improve our customer's pool experience next year.

- **Pirate Bus Trip:**
 - We sold less than 20 tickets to our Pirate Bus Trip scheduled for the 23rd. However, we are looking at several different options for selling the remaining tickets.
- **Recreation Center:**
 - I am continuing to accept reservations from our resident sports' groups for the 2017-2018 gym season at the recreation center.
 - November 1 is set as the "open" date for non-resident groups to reserve any available spots.
 - The recreation board has set the rental rates for Board of Supervisor approval:
 - **Gym Rental per hour rate;**
 - Resident \$30
 - Non-resident (before October 1) \$45
 - Non-resident (after October 1) \$50
 - **Birthday Party per hour rate:**
 - Resident \$40
 - Non-resident \$45
- **Fitness Classes:**
 - We've expanded our Fitness classes, and added a P90X and Core de Force Cardio Kick Box classes to our fall/winter schedule:
 - **P90X Cardio Class, Mondays, 9:30am-10:30am**
 - **Core de Force Cardio Kick Box, Wednesdays, 9:30am-10:30am**
 - **10 weeks, \$10 drop in or \$80/10 classes**
- **Jump Start Sports Camps:**
 - We will once again be offering our sports camps at the recreation center this fall/winter: basketball/volleyball camps Saturday mornings starting in December.
 - **Volleyball, Ages 7-12, Thursdays, 6pm-8pm, starting in November**
 - **Basketball, Ages 4-9, Saturdays, 12p-2p, starting in December**
 - **Soccer, Ages 3-6, Saturdays, 12p-2p, starting in January**
 - **Classes are co-ed, 6 weeks, \$65/participant**

Public Comment

Mr. Stafford asked if the issue with his house in Herminie will be resolved. It's been two years now and there is sewage running over the hill. Mr. Kerber stated that as soon as paving season is over you will be next. As soon as paving season is over we will be back to doing storm pipes. Mr. Stafford asked if the Sewage Authority can check to see if there is sewage leaking in the area. Mr. Merdian stated that yes we can do that.

Sandy Dull asked about the request she made last meeting about having the fire whistle tested. Mr. Merdian stated that we have a report from Gibson Thomas and it states that on September 9, 2017 the sound level reading was taken at a house which is closest to the fire whistle. The decimal reading at its highest was 113 decibels. This reading at 113 decibels only becomes problematic when you are exposed to it for more than 45 seconds. That is at a steady burst at the 113 decibels. This decibel is reached at periodic intervals of 10 to 12 seconds. At this point and time we met with the fireman, some things could be done, but of course without cost. Mr. Merdian asked Mrs. Dull what you would like to see be done. Mrs. Dull stated that she wants it moved back to the Recreation Center where it was. On September 9, I checked with 911 and the fire whistle blew one time as a check and it blew for less than one minute. I asked for it to run for a full three minutes. Mrs. Dull stated she would like to have it moved back to the top

of the Rec Center so the noise could travel above our homes and not blast them. When it is humid our houses vibrate, when it is cold it shakes the glass. Mr. Merdian asked Mrs. Dull at this time to bring photos of the damaged glass to him after the meeting is adjourned. Mrs. Dull stated that she talked to Chief Kline and we had a nice conversation about this. At night you can't sleep because of this, you can't even open your windows. Mr. Merdian stated that Herminie Fire Departments, between January 1, 2017 and September 19, 2017, whistle blew 15 times on calls exclusive to Hermine, between the hours of Midnight and 6am. The number increased to 29 when you look at calls that Herminie was included on. Mrs. Dull stated that she would really like it moved. If this whistle is maintenance free it should not be a problem to put it back onto the Rec Center building. If it is not moved I will have to seek other actions.

Margaret Sensue stated that there is no improvement on the areas that she has been complaining about. Mr. Merdian stated that we cannot comment on this at this time because it has gone into legal proceedings. Mr. Merdian stated that there is significant movement on taking care of this matter. Mr. Merdian stated that he will look into the question of whether or not you can have a business in this area.

Mrs. Jones asked about motion number nineteen on the agenda. She asked if we bid the insurance out. If seems that it keeps getting higher every year and we stay with the same insurance company. Mr. Merdian stated that yes we did and we accepted the lowest bid.

Carol Keller asked for an update on the speeding in front of H.W. Good. Mr. Merdian stated we found previous information that we made attempts to get this taken care of before. We have been in contact with Justin Walsh and he actually called today requesting that we send over that paper work to him. We are working on this. Mrs. Keller stated that she called the state police twice. Yesterday while sitting in the school parking lot she counted fifty cars and only nine were going the speed limit. It's not just cars, its big trucks, and even school busses. Mr. Merdian stated we are taking this very serious and we are working with the right people to make this happen.

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
Schulte's Enterprise – annual inspection & maintenance	\$ 1,023.26
Schulte's Enterprise – repairs on engine	<u>\$ 1,658.62</u>
	\$ 3,284.13

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

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

Palko Truck Trailer – repair on brush truck	\$ 90.10
Pro-Am Safety – repairs on truck	\$ 1,003.43
Kush Kustom Auto – repair compressor & pump on truck	<u>\$ 585.00</u>
	\$ 1,678.53

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

Motion to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Ham Radio Outlet – radio system and accessories	\$ 3,777.35
Premier Safety – six safety jackets, vests, caps w/twp logo	\$ 1,550.00
Premier Safety – sixty emergency wool blankets	\$ 780.00
Glen Wees – safe for EMA office	\$ 149.99
Glen Wees – U-Haul rental for EMA furniture	<u>\$ 77.00</u>
	\$ 6,334.34

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize Gibson-Thomas Engineering to prepare and submit applications requesting funds from the CDBG program for the 2018 calendar year on behalf of Sewickley Township. These applications will be made to help fund storm sewer replacement projects as well as new playground equipment and installation for Crabapple Park/Pool. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the renewal of Township Property, General Liability Insurance, and Workers Compensation Insurance through Rupp-Fiore Insurance Management, Inc. The premium for the Workers Compensation Insurance is \$ 66,603.00 which is an increase of \$ 7,176.00 and the premium for General Liability Insurance is \$ 31,887.00 which is a decrease of \$ 1,853.00 from last year. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Act 205 of 1984, as amended, governs the funding requirements for all municipal pension plans. The law requires the Chief Administrative Officer of each municipal pension plan to inform the “governing body” of the municipality of the plan’s expected financial obligation for the coming year. This must be done by the last business day in September. This information, provided under the guidance of the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System, the Plan’s administrator, is intended to satisfy the legal requirements of Act 205. The calculation of the 2018 plan cost, or the Minimum Municipal Obligation, requires an estimate of the 2017 W-2 wages of the employees covered by the plan. As the Chief Administrative Officer of the non-uniformed pension plan, Brian Merdian will submit the budget to the Board of Supervisors outlining the financial requirements of the pension plan and the minimum municipal obligation of the Township for the coming year. The Minimum Municipal Obligation is the municipality’s 2018 bill for the pension plan that must be paid by December 31, 2018. The obligation must be met with general fund monies or with any General State Aid to Municipal Pensions to which we may be entitled under Act 205.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to accept the minimum municipal obligation for the non-uniformed pension plan of \$ 17,715.00 and incorporate the amount into the 2018 General Fund budget as the State Aid Pension Payment and the Township payment to the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System when received by the Office Manager. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify authorizing payment for Linda Harvey, Sewickley Township Tax Collector, to attend the Pennsylvania State Tax Collectors Association Convention. The cost to attend is \$160.00. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify the hiring of Samuel Oravetz as a Road Crew Equipment Operator at the rate of \$18.92 per hour for a 90-day probationary term. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; 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 date of September 1, 2017. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to reject the received bid from Raffle Construction LLC in the amount of \$ 97,000.00 for the Crabapple Handicap Ramp Construction Project. There were no bids submitted for the Crabapple Park ADA Restroom Renovations at the Pavilion, Pool and Ballfield Construction Project. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize Gibson-Thomas Engineering to complete the Recreation Master Plan for the Crabapple Park and Pool based on input received from the Sewickley Township Recreation Board as well as from other athletic and youth organizations within the Township. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the donation of six 1-day admission passes to Crabapple Pool for the H.W. Good PTO's annual fundraiser. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify the use of the pony baseball field to the Yough High School Boys Baseball Team for practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30pm to 4:30pm starting on August 29th through September 14th. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the following rental rates for the 2017-2018 seasons at the Sewickley Township Recreation Center. These rates are recommended by the Recreation Board with a slight increase from last year.

Sewickley Township Residents / Teams	\$ 30.00 per hour
Non-Residents / Teams, before Oct. 1 st	\$ 45.00 per hour
Non-Residents / Teams, after Oct. 1 st	\$ 50.00 per hour
Short Term, One Day Rentals, Resident	\$ 40.00 per hour
Short Term, One Day Rentals, Non-Resident	\$ 45.00 per hour

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the following Fall/Winter JumpStart Sports Programs to be held at the Sewickley Township Recreation Center:

- **Volleyball** – Thursdays from 6:00pm to 8:00pm, starting in November, Ages 7-12
- **Basketball** – Saturdays from 12:00pm to 2:00pm, starting in December, Ages 4-9
- **Soccer** – Saturdays from 12:00pm to 2:00pm, starting in January, Ages 3-6

All clinics are co-ed for 6 weeks with a cost of \$65.00 per participant (includes a t-shirt)

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

Highway Aid: Check 460 - \$ 3,531.36 (8/16/17)
Check 461 - \$ 10,978.91 (9/19/17)

Payroll Invoices: Check 5151 - \$ 21.61 (8/17/17)
Checks 5175 to 5176 - \$ 1,900.95 (8/24/17)
Checks 5192 to 5193 - \$ 102.97 (8/31/17)
Checks 5197 to 5198 - \$ 319.13 (9/7/17)
Check 5208 - \$ 21.61 (9/14/17)
ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 762.05 (8/3/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,798.24 (8/4/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,056.46 (8/11/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 5,720.38 (8/17/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,299.16 (8/18/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 729.72 (8/18/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 5,200.53 (8/24/17)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,735.10 (8/25/17)

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

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

Employees Payroll:

(twp)	8/25/17 - \$ 8,739.26
(pool)	8/25/17 - \$ 3,281.89
(twp)	9/1/17 - \$ 9,193.30
(pool)	9/1/17 - \$ 1,525.25
(twp)	9/8/17 - \$ 9,028.95
(pool)	9/8/17 - \$ 336.32
(twp)	9/15/17 - \$ 10,970.96
(pool)	9/15/17 - \$ 239.80
(twp)	9/22/17 - \$ 11,373.00
(pool)	9/22/17 - \$ 192.43

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

New/Old Business

Mrs. Jones asked if we are going to advertise again for the Crabapple Handicap Ramp Construction Project. Mr. Merdian stated yes, we only got one bid and the price was high.

Mr. Kansler, township solicitor, stated to Mrs. Sensue that home occupancy permits are permitted in the area that you were speaking of, but they are required to abide by the zoning ordinances.

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Fossi. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.

Erika Horvat
Secretary-Treasurer