

Chairman Brian Merdian on Wednesday, October 25, 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, Betty Hazuza, Margaret Sensue, Kathy Kerber, Bob Janzef, Judy Janzef, Jill Petros, Linda Harvey, Sandy Dull, Mark Petros, Tracy Hampshire, Carol Keller, Bob Keller, Ann McWilliams, Jack McWilliams, John Seanor, John Cochran, Tom Lord, Janet Schork, Debi Pils, Attorney Kansler and Erika Horvat.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

The road crew has been out for two days patching roads. We've been out for three days sweeping roads from oil and chipping. We were delayed in doing this because the sweeper had a minor issue. We had to repair the fence at Lowber Playground due to a quad wreck. We replaced five stop signs and four road signs due to vandalism. Repairs on Seventh Street were done. The paving is complete on Harris Drive, Mary Drive, Judy Drive, Gloria Drive, Sunnyside Drive and Gordon Street. The Recreation Parking lot is also complete. We are now currently working on Orchard Drive. Next on the list, weather permitting and if financially possible, are Limerick Hill Road, Sabrina Drive, Clinton Drive and Hildenbrand Lane.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Nick Newcaster

All of the following information has taken place since the last Board of Supervisors Meeting on 09/20/17: Nine (9) warning letters were mailed, which pertained to JMV's (Junk Motor Vehicles), high grass, and dangerous structures. Two dog complaints were received and forwarded to Animal Control. I have also spoken with several people on the telephone and in person, reference to violations, which resulted in compliance, without having to mail letters. Two complaints were withdrawn at MDJ CHRISTNER's office, due to the property coming into compliance. There are currently no tagged JMV's on Township roadways. Three (3) JMV's have been removed from the Herminie area. Additionally, one (1) JMV was made road legal. That vehicle was located in Hutchinson. The annual County tax sale took place on 09/11/17. Two properties in the Township were sold, one in Herminie and one in the Waltz Mill area. Unreasonable noise being caused by dogs is not a violation of the State Dog Law. Therefore, Animal Control cannot respond to complaints regarding that. Please contact MDJ CHRISTNER's office and make a private complaint, if you feel that is warranted. At this time, the Township does not have an Ordinance to address barking dogs. As always, if someone has noticed a violation and would like to make a complaint, my extension is 7, which does have voicemail. A resident asked what is considered a junk vehicle. Mr. Newcaster explained basically a vehicle that is not registered or not inspected. The resident stated that his neighbor is back to three vehicles again and you were down there and said everything was taken care of. Mr. Newcaster said he will be down to take a look at them. The resident asked if anything can be done about the green pool. Mr. Merdian stated that we would have to take a look at the zoning ordinance. It's a long and expensive process when we look at changing the zoning ordinance. The resident asked if we could get something started. Mr. Merdian stated that at this time we do not have any plans to look into changing the zoning.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Park & Pool:

- Winterizing of Crabapple Pool will be completed in November.
- The last day that Crabapple Park will be open to vehicular traffic is October 31st. Park is open year-round to fishing, walkers, runners, pets (on leash) from 8am-dusk.
- Additional parking at ball-field lot (across from H.W. Good Elementary School). We ask that cars do not block park gates in case of an emergency.

Recreation Center:

- The recreation Center is now open:
 - Once again spots are filling quickly.
 - All weekday evenings are filled as well as our returning morning senior groups. Saturdays and Sundays continue to be popular days for birthday party rentals.
 - In support of the rentals, I continue scheduling, sending out and processing applications and payments.
- Thank you to Joe and the road crew for paving the recreation/library parking lot. It looks great!

Raise the Flag at Crabapple Pool:

- Through resident donations and funds raised from Alan Fossi's River Plunge, we were able to purchase a new flag pole and flags for Crabapple Pool. Additionally, a plaque was purchased to recognize the donations. The donors include: Alan Fossi, Rupp Fiore Insurance Management, David Trautman Colonel Retired, Justino & Helen Gioanni (G – Ownie), and LeRoy Mowrey.

Town Square Grant:

- A second grant was received from Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, in partnership with the Westmoreland County Land Bank for the town square project on Sewickley Avenue and Pike Street. The grant has been fulfilled and included installing a split-rail fence, planting (4) shade trees, setting (2) boulders, and adding an additional bench. Thank you to Loura Sommers, owner of Grandview Nursery, for donating one of the four trees, the top soil, and her invaluable advice on the best trees and tree placement for the location. Additionally, thank you to Alan Fossi, Mike Schork, Bill Bush, and the Herminie Boy Scout Troop 259 for all of their help in completing this project.

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

July 19, 2017
August 16, 2017
September 20, 2017

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

Public Comment

Bob Janzef asked if any repairs were going to be done on Hildenbrand Lane. Mr. Kerber stated that if the weather holds out we are going to do some repairs. We are down an employee as of today, but we will get out there as soon as possible.

Linda Harvey asked about the Quality of Life Ordinance that was discussed in past meetings. Certain things are talked about at meetings and then we don't hear about them anymore, and this is one of them. Mr. Merdian stated that as of right now more pressing things have been taking up our solicitor's time but we will continue to work on this.

Sandy Dull stated that she has done a lot of research on the fire siren. Is there any way we can compromise on this? There are no ordinances and I really feel that this fire whistle alters my way of life. I really think that the Township should be responsible for appeasing the citizens. We need a compromise. Mr. Merdian stated that at this point, on the agenda this evening, is a proposal. If this motion is approved tonight a review or study will be done on the fire siren. Is the whistle causing hazardous conditions to

residents that live near, and occupants of the rec center, not in terms of nuisance but in terms of if there is actual damage to hearing or property damage from vibration. That is the purpose of spending the money to have this done, if this is indeed something that is a legitimate problem. If we determine that there is no problem to health or safety up there, where do we go from there. Is there some sort of a compromise we can come up with? The question we have as a board is, if we sit down and talk to the fireman, what type of hard factual evidence do we have to say to them that this is a problem and something needs to be done. Mrs. Dull stated that the fire whistle was moved with no consideration for the citizens. Where was the study when this was moved? We have been putting up with this for a very long time. Last night it rang twice, and that's fine that it needs to ring at night, but they don't answer and it goes off again. So that whistle runs for six minutes. Mr. Merdian stated that he cannot comment on what happened in the past, I was not here. Mrs. Dull read the meeting minutes from when the moving of the whistle was approved, Voting Mr. Fossi, yes; Mrs. Layman, yes; Mr. Kerber no. Mrs. Dull asked if anybody asked the fireman about this issue. Mr. Merdian stated he did not engage the fireman in terms of a solution to moving it. He asked if the volume can be turned down or if there are other ways or means of ways to notify their staff if and when a call comes in. Mr. Merdian stated that we were told that the fire whistle could not be controlled in terms of volume. Mrs. Dull states that she has had other people tell her differently. Mrs. Dull asked Mr. Kerber why he voted no. Mr. Kerber stated that he thought that the original spot where they were going to put the fire whistle was done out of spite. I did not see a reason to take it off of the Rec Center in the first place. Mr. Merdian stated that we will have to first get hard factual evidence, this is why I called a third party in. Once we get the information from this study, we will determine what the next step will be. Sandy stated that the original spot was going to be put in front of Tracy Hampshire's house. Mr. Kerber stated that we would hate to move this back up to the top of the Recreation Center and find it is worse than what is now. Mrs. Dull stated that Westpoint has the same siren and they are down to thirty seconds with two quick bursts. How are we going to determine the difference between a tornado siren and a fire whistle, they all blow the same.

Carol Keller asked what is happening with the blinking lights in front of the schools. Mr. Merdian stated that we did receive preliminary approval from Penn Dot. We received the estimate from our engineer for the cost associated with this. I am now going to take this to the school board and Dr. Sardon. Mrs. Keller also stated that she requested that the state police monitor the speeding that occurs in front of the Elementary school.

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
Herminie Auto - brakes, power steering hose	<u>\$ 237.81</u>
	\$ 840.06

Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; 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:

Walt Lipinski – lock for office cabinet, 3 keys	\$ 15.33
Jason Ritchie – 2 antenna line posts	\$ 31.74
Petty Cash – startup money	\$ 200.00
Comcast – monthly phone, internet, cable	\$176.91
Premier Safety – badges	<u>\$ 549.46</u>
	\$ 973.44

Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; 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:

Vickers Consulting Services – Grant Services	\$ 750.00
Staley Communication Inc. – radio service	\$ 235.00
Kush Kustom Auto – maintenance on truck	\$ 1,509.00
HC Global – battery, antenna	<u>\$ 361.00</u>
	\$ 2,855.00

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

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

Palko Truck & Trailer – maintenance of truck	\$ 830.09
Howell Rescue Systems – maintenance on rescue tool	<u>\$ 740.00</u>
	\$ 1,570.09

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the site development plan for a Pump Station (1A) located on Waltz Mill Flats Road to service the proposed Commerce Crossing Industrial Park. It will be a collector point and pump sewage to a new Pump Station (1B) located on Hunker Road by way of 2-4" forced main pipes. The plan has been approved for E&S and Stormwater Management by the Conservation District. Gibson Thomas has also reviewed these plans. The plan was approved 5-0 by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to adopt Resolution 43-2017 authorizing an agreement between Sewickley Township and the Westmoreland County Transit Authority to provide public transportation within the community. Based on population, population density, and the number of trips within the community, the share assessment for Fiscal Year 2017-2018 will be \$850.50 and paid in January, 2018. This is an increase of \$40.50 from the previous year. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Sewickley Township Solicitor and the Sewickley Township Ordinance Officer to file civil action against Anthony Costanza for Non-Compliance of Chapter 10 and Chapter 13 of the Sewickley Township Code. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to close the PLIGIT checking account titled Sewickley Township Recreation Board. The closing balance is \$ 25.23 and will be deposited into the Recreation checking account at First National Bank of PA. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to use Act 13 Impact Fee funds made payable to Lehigh Hanson for approximately 300 tons of asphalt in the amount of \$ 16,119.48. This was used to pave the Library parking lot. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to purchase Bituminous Stockpile Patching material (cold mix) through Hei-Way, LLC which is also through the COSTARS Program. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to accept the proposal from Thornton Acoustics & Vibrations in the amount of \$2,240.00. This proposal outlines a course of action to determine if sound output of the fire hall siren located in Herminie is reasonable for an emergency warning device. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

A letter was received from the following resident regarding the waiving of their residential garbage service due to them traveling, composting, recycling and burning.

Chris Casagrande
127 Cool Springs Road
Sutersville, PA 15083

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Township to lease a 2018 Ram 5500 4X4 Dump Truck with Snowplow, Hydraulic System and Auger Spinner Spreader from Tri-Star Motors. This unit will be lease financed by F.N.B. Commercial Leasing for five years with a purchase option price of \$1.00 at the end of the lease. Annual payments will be \$16,192.97. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify the increase in compensation for Sam Slick, Sewickley Township Public Works Laborer, from \$14.00 per hour to \$14.50 per hour effective October 2, 2017. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify Yough Basketball coaches to rent the gym at the resident rate for the joint Yough/Norwin Girls' Basketball Program. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:	Checks 8950 to 8967 - \$ 25,522.65 (9/22/17)
	Check 8968 - \$ 22,907.37 (9/27/17)
	Checks 8969 to 8980 - \$ 6,645.66 (9/29/17)
	Checks 8981 to 8984 - \$ 30,553.52 (10/4/17)
	Checks 8985 to 9005 - \$ 19,492.39 (10/5/17)
	Checks 9007 to 9021 - \$ 12,975.19 (10/12/17)
	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 301.52 (9/27/17)
	First Energy - \$ 393.10 (9/28/17)
	Columbia Gas - \$ 25.33 (10/3/17)

Crabapple: Checks 45610 to 4511 - \$ 447.19 (9/22/17)
 Checks 4512 to 4513 - \$ 616.47 (10/4/17)
 Check 4514 - \$ 69.13 (10/5/17)
 Check 4515 - \$ 37.12 (10/12/17)
 ACH Payments: MSATS - \$ 58.95 (9/20/17)
 First Energy - \$ 409.55 (9/28/17)
 First Energy - \$ 234.43 (10/11/17)

Recreation: Checks 2727 to 2728 - \$ 164.96 (9/21/17)
 ACH Payments: MSATS – \$ 58.95 (9/20/17)
 First Energy - \$ 365.83 (9/28/17)

Highway Aid: Check 462 - \$ 57,646.52 (9/28/17)
 Check 463 - \$ 6,070.68 (10/2/17)
 Check 464 - \$ 26,892.81 (10/2/17)
 Check 465 - \$ 26,475.42 (10/6/17)
 Check 466 - \$ 17,278.38 (10/18/17)

Payroll Invoices: Check 5215 - \$ 21.61 (9/21/17)
 Checks 5219 to 5221 - \$ 2,587.64 (9/28/17)
 Check 5226 - \$ 21.61 (10/4/17)
 Check 5233 to 5234 - \$ 354.63 (10/12/17)
 ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,554.12 (9/29/17)
 Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,630.24 (10/2/17)
 Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,545.48 (10/3/17)
 Payroll Liabilities \$ 629.40 (10/4/17)
 Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,796.94 (10/6/17)
 Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,290.18 (10/13/17)

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

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

Employees Payroll: 9/29/17 - \$ 10,638.87
 10/3/17 - \$ 11,469.95
 10/13/17 - \$ 14,042.86
 10/20/17 - \$ 10,448.71

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

New / Old Business

The Township Supervisors would like to remind residents that the 2017 Halloween Activities are as follows:

Saturday, October 28, 2017
 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

Crabapple Park will be closing to vehicular traffic for the season on October 31, 2017. The park is open year-round to fishing, walkers, runners and pets (on leash) from 8:00am - dusk. There is additional parking at the ball-field lot (across from H.W. Good Elementary School). We ask that you do not block the gates for entryway into the ballfields in case of an emergency.

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Fossi. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Fossi; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Erika Horvat
Secretary-Treasurer