

Chairman Joe Kerber on Wednesday August 15, 2018 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 29, 2017. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Joseph Kerber, Brian Merdian and Mark Petros. Also attending the meeting were Marianne Errett, Jim Harvey, Matt Geis, Alan Fossi, Rich Bosko, Jason McGill, Linda Sever, Kathy Kerber, Jean Bacha, Carlee Guerrieri, Terri Couch, Judy Janzef, Bob Janzef, Linda Harvey, Nancy Neel, Richard Neel, Ron Oblack, Bobbie Oblak, Rose Rause, Bill Cosalter, John Wright, Jamie Dubinsly, Jennifer Schambura, Miriam La Bryer, Daniel Rause, Margaret Sensue, Bob MacPherson, Debbi MacPherson, Mathew Gross, Bruce Zarnick, Tracy Hampshire, Sandy Dull, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Bill Luzar, Karen Luzar, Tom Lord, Robert Ziemba, Attorney Kansler, Janet Schork and Erika Horvat.

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

An Executive Session was held tonight, August 15, 2018 at 6:15pm to discuss legal and personnel matters.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

The Board of Supervisors would like to thank South Huntingdon Township. They were here on August 13th and 14th helping to repair road damage caused by the heavy rain storm. On August 10th, a heavy rain fall caused major damage on Apples Mills Road, Oak Creek Lane, Morris Road and Wineland Drive. Hutchinson and Hermine were the hardest hit areas. We installed a temporary bridge on Oak Creek Drive. The township is working on Apples Mill Road now, and is hoping to have it opened up to traffic by the end of the week. Repairs to Lash and Curry Road, due to the storm, has been completed. The mower was out cutting along the sides of the road, but that has now stopped due to the fact I need the man power to fix storm damage. We were out patching for three days. We pulled the ditch on Oggs Lane and Sulpher Springs Road. We did some repair work to Falls Road and Volk Road. We did work on a storm pipe and catch box on Turner Valley Road and Lily Street. We put stone on Cherry Street. We replaced the sliding board at Crabapple Park and mulched the Hutchy and Crabapple Playgrounds. For now all paving projects are on hold. Funding will be an issue now due to all the damage. Tar and chipping is on hold also. I was in contact with the company that brings us the oil and they were nice enough to guarantee the price until spring.

Linda Sever stated that underneath the swings at the Hutchy Playground needs more mulch. The kids cannot get up on the swings.

Mr. Kerber wanted to thank Skip Wees and the fireman who worked all night during the rain storm. Everyone worked very well together.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Pat Schmidt

Nineteen properties were investigated for non-compliance issues following photographs, nineteen certified letters mailed out for property issues that were not handled after discussion with owners. Following the letters a few have made arrangements to clean up properties and have begun undertaking cleaning the properties and property maintenance. Seventeen vehicles were tagged as abandoned in the Herminie, Hutchinson and Lowber areas. Only one has been remediated to this point. I am currently working on three properties owned by different banks, 105 Madison Ave, 107 Madison Ave, and 402 McClerge Ave. I have been in touch with the banks owning these properties and have discussed cleaning and maintenance as well as providing them with phone numbers to local companies as none of the banks are even located in this state. We will see where it goes. For the upcoming month I will be checking back and forth on the properties that have garbage, high grass and weeds, and are just in disrepair. If nothing is done I will file accordingly with the MDJ.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Pool:

- The rainy and cooler than normal weather has affected attendance at the pool. This is also the time of year when there is a slow down as families prepare for the beginning of school. But, we hope that our last two full weeks will see an improvement as we wind down the summer season.
- Our final Wednesday night swim is scheduled for this evening from 7:30pm-10:00pm
- We had our annual back-to-school pool party on Monday, August 13. Even with the cool temperatures and forecasted storms, we had 70 attendees.
- The pool will be open through Sunday, August 26, and close Monday August 27 through Friday September 31. We will re-open for Labor Day Weekend on Saturday September 1 through Monday, September 3.

Supervisor, Brian Meridan made a statement regarding the damage that was done to the Recreation Building and Library. He stated that for right now the Library and Recreation Center is closed. The building experienced significant water damage due to the storm that occurred on August 10th. We are investigating now, looking for reasons and corrections to the problem. ServPro has been hired to come in and start the drying out process. The insurance company has been notified and we are waiting to hear back from them. We have no guarantee at this point whether or not they will cover the damages.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Meridan to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meetings held on June 20th and July 18, 2018. Voting: Mr. Meridan, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Brian Meridan made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Special Meeting held on July 5, 2018. Voting: Mr. Meridan, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Public Comment

Judy and Bob Janzef wanted to thank Mr. Kerber and everyone who worked all day and night during the storm. It was great to see how you were able to get the temporary bridge in. Apples Mill Road looks really good.

Bobbie Oblack stated that they did get flooded again. We are getting water in from all sides. Mr. Kerber stated that we did talk to the contractor about getting a curb in. I didn't get a chance to see if it was put in. I will get out there this week to look at it. If we have to do it we will.

Rose Rause stated that her problem wasn't as bad as some, but I have been here for 52 years and I never had issues with water. During the storm I had four inches of water in the basement and the sump pump wasn't pumping it out fast enough. It had no place to go. I was wondering if something was plugging up the drain in front of our house. Also, where my tap in is, I am getting water shooting out and running down the road. That tells me that maybe the drain in the alley is clogged. Mr. Kerber stated that the only explanation that I can give is that your tap in was put in with stone, water would travel through stone. Mr. Kerber stated that it would be hard to judge the system when six inches of rain fell.

Bill Cosalter wanted to thank EMS and the township for all the work they did during the storm. He stated that where Pollard Construction had all their equipment, it is causing a lot of runoff. If it wasn't for a resident cleaning the drain out, we would have had some people get flooded bad. Mr. Kerber stated that he agrees. He needs to put a silk sock around there. Mr. Cosalter stated that the roads in Hutchy are terrible. Are you going to do anything? Mr. Kerber stated that we have no plan right now. We are trying to work out a deal with RUS and with Pollard to try and let the township do it. Mr. Kerber stated that he is not real happy with what Pollard has done. I don't feel comfortable with them paving the road. A resident asked about Pollard's bond. Mr. Kerber stated that the bond can be released within one year.

John Wright stated that Cameron Avenue, can we come up with a different solution regarding the ditch along this road, I talked to you and you stated that the ditch belongs to the fireman, the fireman states that it belongs to the township. I would cut the bank and make it slope. Mr. Kerber stated that he will look at the right away and the width of the road. Also, Mr. Wright stated that he is tired of people driving off of the road; you can hear the cars scrapping. There is no stone along the side of the road. Mr. Kerber stated that he will look at it. Mr. Wright stated that Pollard never put any stone where they said they were going to. Mr. Kerber stated that unfortunately I was not the inspector out there. Mr. Wright also stated that at a relative's home on Two Hook Lane, there was water shooting out of the commode. They went out and pulled the cap from the sewer system and water was shooting up eight feet.

Jamie Dubinsky lives on Chopp Street. She noticed that it is staked with property markers. It is zoned agricultural. She asked if a request came in for a subdivision for that property. Mr. Kerber stated no. She also stated that there is water that funnels down between Chopp and Cherry Street and it is going to damage my house and garage. Is there something wrong with the drain? Mr. Kerber stated that I will get out there to look at it.

Jennifer Schambura asked about the issue with the drainage pipe along Sherman Street. Mr. Kerber stated that it was fixed today. Mr. Kerber stated that the pipe is not meant to handle over six inches of rain. Ms. Schambura went on to explain the issue of her neighbor's water coming into her yard. Mr. Kerber stated that he was unaware of water issues there until this year. We are applying for a storm water grant for Hutchinson, total of about one million. We are trying to get funding. Ms. Schambura stated that she had another ten inches in her basement again. Something needs done.

Jean Bacha lives in Hutchinson and she stated that she still thinks that something is blocked on her street that is causing water issues. I think this is why it is blowing out down by Grady's. That pipe can be crushed down there. Mr. Kerber stated that it was terracotta pipe there and someone put a garage in and it looked as though they cut the pipe. Also, it looks as though someone put in a piece of steel tubing that really isn't pipe in that area. We took that rotted piece out and fixed it in that area. Jean Bacha stated that that is the same issue you found at our house that went under our sidewalk. Ms. Bacha stated that there are just cones around the new sewage plant. Over the hill is really filled up with water. Could we get a guard rail along the street there for safety purposes? Mr. Merdian stated we will discuss that at the sewage meeting.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to disburse 2017 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. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to disburse 2017 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Hutchinson Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Howell Rescue Systems Inc. – maintenance on rescue tool	\$ 790.00
Witmer Public Safety – traffic control lighting	\$ 86.00
Howell Rescue Systems Inc. – air cylinder service	\$ 805.00
Kush Kustom Auto – headlights in attack 85	\$ 300.00
Kush Kustom Auto – siren replacement	\$ 728.00
WCCC – training courses	<u>\$ 195.00</u>
	\$ 2,904.00

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

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to disburse 2017 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Bear Com – monthly maintenance on portable radios	\$ 92.00
Bear Com – desktop microphone	\$ 103.00
Comcast – phone, internet	<u>\$ 181.94</u>
	\$ 376.94

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to disburse 2017 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Rillton Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Luft's Auto and Truck Repair – brakes, tires for brush	\$ 1,950.24
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Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to adopt Resolution No. 22-2018 authorizing the Board of Supervisors to submit an application for Traffic Signal Approval to Penn DOT. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to approve Resolution No. 23-2018 declaring the existence of a disaster emergency in Sewickley Township that occurred on August 10, 2018. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Mark Petros made a motion to approve Resolution 24 - 2018, authorizing the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors to execute the Letter Agreement with PTV 1012, LLC regarding the Township's continued use and maintenance of the unnamed right of way connecting Third Street and Library Avenue in Herminie. Motion failed due to lack of second.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to consent to the request from the Westmoreland County Tax Claim Bureau for the potential sale of Tax Map Parcel No. 58-14-00-0-016 from the Unsold Property Repository. The location of this property is at 121 Lowber Road, West Newton. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Meridan to advertise in Tribune Review for Budget Workshops to be held on the following dates and times:

Monday, September 10, 2018 – 6:30pm
Tuesday, September 18, 2018 – 8:30am
Tuesday, September 25, 2018 – 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 2, 2018 – 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 9, 2018 – 8:30am
Tuesday, October 16, 2018 – 8:30am

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 – 6:30pm
Tuesday, October 30, 2018 – 6:30pm
Monday November 5, 2018 – 6:30pm
Tuesday, November 13, 2018 – 8:30am
Tuesday, November 20, 2018 – 8:30am

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

A letter has been received from Mark Lord regarding the waiving of garbage service at 212 Stewart Lane, Irwin due to his Mother's passing. The property is vacant.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to waive Mark Lord's garbage service and all bills relating to garbage pickup through Waste Management. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to hire the following to perform the daily maintenance at Crabapple Park and Pool and to set their hourly rate at \$ 9.50 an hour:

Janna Feltes
Zachary Abbott
Stephen Melonuk

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to ratify authorizing Township employees to attend the Annual Picnic hosted by the Westmoreland County Association of Township Supervisors at Mammoth Park and to pay those that attend their regular hourly rate. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to approve the following bills for payment.

General Fund:

Checks 9645 to 9670 - \$ 63,063.43 (7/20/18)
Check 9674 - \$ 6.00 (7/23/18)
Checks 2010 to 2011 - \$ 36,842.50 (7/24/18)
Checks 9675 to 9682 - \$ 1,709.81 (7/27/18)
Checks 9683 to 9696 - \$ 5,365.11 (8/2/18)
Checks 9697 to 9713 - \$ 22,047.28 (8/9/18)
Checks 9714 to 9730 - \$ 6,011.80 (8/15/18)

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 473.15 (7/30/18)
First Energy - \$ 63.26 (7/31/18)
Columbia Gas - \$ 25.56 (8/3/18)

Crabapple:

Checks 4590 to 4597 - \$ 1,043.28 (7/19/18)
Check 4598 - \$ 275.20 (7/20/18)
Checks 4599 to 4600 - \$ 271.00 (7/26/18)
Checks 4601 to 4606 - \$ 7,971.26 (8/2/18)
Check 4607 to 4608 - \$ 92.02 (8/9/18)
Check 4609 - \$ 135.00 (8/15/18)

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 276.96 (7/30/18)
First Energy - \$ 18.46 (7/31/18)
First Energy - \$ 126.90 (8/10/18)
First Energy - \$ 104.52 (8/10/18)

Recreation:

Check 2770 - \$ 156.35 (7/19/18)

ACH Payments: MSATS – \$ 59.95 (7/20/18)
First Energy - \$ 471.10 (6/28/18)
Columbia Gas - \$ 34.42 (8/3/18)

Highway Aid: Check 483 - \$ 50,574.42 (8/7/18)
Check 484 - \$ 25,000.00

Payroll Invoices:

Check 5489 - \$ 280.27 (7/19/18)
Checks 5515 to 5516 - \$ 1,890.82 (7/26/18)
Check 5563 – \$ 280.27 (8/9/18)

ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,494.51 (7/26/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 993.38 (7/26/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 846.61 (7/26/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 66.80 (7/26/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 9.00 (7/26/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,786.42 (7/27/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,690.96 (8/10/18)

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

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to approve the following payrolls for payment.

Employees Payroll: (twp) 7/27/18 - \$ 9,235.88
(pool) 7/27/18 - \$ 3,695.13
(twp) 8/3/18 - \$ 8,981.18
(pool) 8/3/18 - \$ 2,915.38
(twp) 8/8/18 - \$ 9,668.71
(pool) 8/8/18 - \$ 2,865.45
(twp) 8/17/18 - \$ 13,544.29
(pool) 8/17/18 - \$ 2,862.44

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

New / Old Business

Swearing in of Fire Police – Bruce Zarnick

With no further business to come before the Board, Brian Merdian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Petros.
Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

Erika Horvat
Secretary-Treasurer