

Chairman Mark Petros on Monday January 7, 2019 at 7:15pm 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 Friday, December 28, 2018. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Mark Petros, Brian Merdian and Joseph Kerber. Also attending the meeting were Kathy Kerber, Terri Couch, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Brianna Merdian, Yvonne Merdian, Tracy Hampshire, Linda Harvey, Jim Harvey, Daryl Dermotta, Tom Lord, Sandy Lord, Alan Fossi, Janet Schork, Attorney Kansler and Erika Horvat.

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

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

Since we had a meeting two weeks ago, I don't have much to report. The work on Slaughter Hollow is complete. As of today it is opened. All slides have been repaired. The slide on Scott Haven Road is much worse; we moved the rented equipment down there this morning and got started on it. We pulled the ditch on Slobodnik Road, bermed a little on Pinewood Road. Trimmed brush on Slaughter Hollow. I had a crew out patching for three days. Mr. Kerber stated the board would like to thank Pat for getting the house on Greenhills Road finally taken down. Mrs. Harvey asked how it all happened. Pat stated that it took lots of phone calls. It's been a circle that wouldn't end. This is was all through the bank itself, not through the landbank.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Pat Schmidt

Since our last meeting I had six burning complaints, three animal complaints, some garbage issues, two parking complaints, three hearings, one for the excessive garbage on a bad property, and one for two homes to be torn down. At that hearing everyone was found guilty of something. I helped the homeless guy in Herminie get placed for the day. Researched one property that is relating to the IRS and why they haven't torn it down yet. Goats are considered animals of husbandry, they may be problems and I can call the Humane Society, they ask me if the animals are healthy and that's all I can do. As far as burning complaints, if someone is burning something that is giving off an odor that is questionable or it looks like it can get out of hand you can call the fire department. If they have to come out they will generate an incident report that I can use to file at the magistrate. Same with the police department, use their services.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Recreation Center:

Everything is running smoothly at the recreation center. Fortunately, open rental slots are starting to fill up.

Upcoming Activities:

The Jump Start Dek Hockey and Soccer programs will start on Saturday, January 12 from 9:30am-2pm. The program is for youth ages 4-10.

Discounted Ski Lift Tickets for 7 Springs and Hidden Valley are available at my office on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays from 10am-4p.

Tickets for our 1st annual Snowball Father/Daughter Dinner Dance will be on sale this Saturday, January 12, from 11am-1p at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building.

Free, open gym for walkers is on Monday & Friday afternoons from 12:30p-3:30p.

Open gym for youth basketball starts next Saturday afternoon from 2:30p-4:00p. Also on January 26, February 9 and February 16. The full schedule is available on the website.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting held on December 19, 2018. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to disburse the 2018 EMS Tax Money equally between 6 entities being Herminie, Lowber, Rillton, and Hutchinson Fire Companies, Emergency Management, and Sewickley Ambulance Service. The total to be disbursed is \$102,099.15. Each entity will receive \$17,016.52. The funds will be kept in the EMS Tax Account until invoices / purchase orders are submitted and approved by the Board of Supervisors. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

S & T Bank – mortgage payment \$ 602.25

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

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

Comcast – monthly phone, internet, cable	\$ 184.24
MAWC – lease (4 th Quarter)	\$ 180.00
Amazon – four radios	\$ 712.45
	\$ 1,076.69

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to approve the Jack A and Ann A McWilliams Trust Revised plan. This survey adds a small parcel from Lot 1-R to Lot 2-R so Lot 2-R now has a total area of 10.16 acres while Lot 1-R contains 30.82 acres. A barn is located on Lot 2-R with plans to construct a new residence there. The water is by private well and sanitary will be a private on-lot system. A 10 acre sewage permit exemption was included and approved. The plan was approved 3-0 with Ann abstaining. Mr. Kerber abstained due to Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams being family members. Voting: Mr. Kerber, abstained; Mr. Merdian, yes; Mr. Petros, yes. Motion carried.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to endorse the Westmoreland Comprehensive Plan as authored by the Westmoreland County Commissioners and the WCIDC. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros to approve Joseph Kerber to carry over any unused benefit time from 2018 into 2019. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber to appoint Joe Kerber, Brian Merdian, and Mark Petros as delegates to the 97th Annual State Convention of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors' along with one (1) office staff employee to be selected later, to be held April 14, 2019 to April 17, 2019 at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center and to direct that delegates be paid their regular wage, if any, from the Township of Sewickley while attending the conventions. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

The Annual Convention of the Westmoreland County Association of Township Supervisors will be held on Friday, March 8, 2019 at Stratigos Banquet Centre. Section 1401 (b) and (c) (1), (2) and (3) of the Second Class Township Code states, "The supervisors, auditors, tax collectors, managers, solicitors, engineers, treasurer and secretary of the board of supervisors shall attend the conventions when possible. Each supervisor, auditor, tax collector, manager, solicitor, engineer, treasurer and secretary attending the convention shall receive a certificate, signed by the secretary of the county association, attesting their presence at the convention. The certificate entitles the official to collect from the township treasurer the sum of fifty dollars (\$50) for each day's attendance, expenses which are limited to the registration fee, mileage for use of a personal vehicle or reimbursement of actual transportation expense going to and returning from the meeting plus all other actual expenses that the board of supervisors agrees to pay. Every delegate attending the meeting shall submit to the board of supervisors an itemized account of expenses incurred at the meeting. If the meeting is held during township employee's normal work schedule, the board of supervisor may authorize township employees, including supervisors employed by the township, to be compensated at their regular employee rate during their attendance at the meeting, in which case the employee is not entitled to the fifty dollars (\$50) mentioned in this section. The board of supervisors may authorize a supervisor who is not employed by the township to receive total or partial reimbursement for lost wages or salary while attending the annual meeting, in which case the supervisor is not entitled to the fifty dollars (\$50) mentioned in this section, provided that sufficient documentation of such wages or salary is presented to the board of supervisors to justify the reimbursement."

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber to authorize those outlined in this Section of the Code, along with the Ordinance Officer to attend the Convention and that their expenses for travel, etc. be paid by the Township and that Township employees be compensated at their regular employee rate and others receive the stipend as outlined in the Code. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to table the approval of the quote from Gibson Thomas Engineering to provide a conceptual plan for the new recreation center/library on the property located behind the Rillton VFD for a cost not to exceed \$ 2,500. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to authorize Gibson Thomas to do a survey of the property located behind the Rillton VFD. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 10020 to 10034 - \$ 3,555.83 (12/27/18)
Check 10035 - \$ 120.00 (1/03/18)
Checks 10036 to 10045 - \$ 19,920.04 (1/4/19)
Check 10046 - \$ 19,920.04 (1/4/19)
Check 2016 - \$ 5,000.00 (12/20/18)

ACH Payments: S & T Bank - \$ 5,252.37 (12/17/18)
First Energy - \$ 317.49 (12/27/18)
First Energy - \$ 60.03 (12/27/18)
First Energy - \$ 30.50 (12/27/18)
First Energy - \$ 14.83 (12/27/18)

Crabapple:

ACH Payments: MSATS - \$ 58.95 (12/20/18)
First Energy - \$ 30.89 (12/29/18)
First Energy- \$ 225.84 (1/11/18)

Recreation:

Checks 2791 to 2792 - \$ 126.65 (12/27/18)
Check 2793 - \$ 73.33 (1/4/19)
Check 2794 - 4 300.00 (1/7/19)

ACH Payments: MAWC – \$ 81.46 (12/21/18)
MAWC – \$ 39.55 (12/21/18)
First Energy - \$ 496.24 (12/27/18)
First Energy - \$ 24.65 (12/27/18)
First Energy - \$ 12.40 (12/27/18)

Highway Aid: Check 500 - \$ 14,110.87 (12/27/18)

Payroll Invoices:

Checks 5726 to 5727 - \$ 2,419.01 (12/27/18)

ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 705.14 (12/19/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,932.00 (12/21/18)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,947.42 (12/28/18)

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

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

Employees Payroll: (twp) 12/28/18 - \$ 8,189.72
(twp) 1/4/19 - \$ 7,971.36

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

New / Old Business

Discussion on the Property Maintenance Code

Mr. Merdian would like to discuss the fines and fees associated with the code. On page two of the attached that was sent over by Attorney Kansler stated some of the fees as a \$50 dollar fee for the first violation, \$150 for second, \$500 for a third violation; if the citation is not paid then it goes to the magistrate for a \$600 or \$1,000 penalty. He had a few other verbiage changes. Mr. Merdian asked what the other board members thoughts and comments are. He wanted us to discuss who would be the person that would be in charge of the implementation. Mr. Merdian stated that we look at Mr. Schmidt as the person who could take the courses and get the education. Mr. Kerber and Mr. Petros stated it is a great idea and he is already doing a great job. Mr. Schmidt stated he would like to take this on.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian to approve the recommendations of Attorney Kansler regarding the fees and fines associated with the property maintenance code and to make Pat Schmidt the person to enforce the code. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on the street light installation and locations.

Mr. Merdian stated that we have been talking about this for a while now. With one year under our belts with the tax change, this year coming to an end and the finalization of what our revenues will be, I would like to request asking Zach to create a program for the implementation of additional streetlights throughout the township. I would like to get this accomplished this year.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Meridan to have Attorney Kansler move forward with creating a street light program for implementing additional lights throughout the township. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to come before the Board, Brian Merdian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Kerber. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Merdian: yes; Mr. Petros, yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:40pm.

Erika Horvat
Secretary/Treasurer