

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, June 19, 2019 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 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 Daryl Dermotta, Marianne Errett, Mark A. Squillace, Kathie Simpson, Bob MacPherson, Linda Knor, Wanda Layman, Frank Kott, Jim Harvey, Lisa Phillips, ???, Linda Harvey, Alan Fossi, John Seanor, Mildred McBeth, Tom Gradisek, Jeff Suggars, Emil Burak, Marci Suggars, Erika Horvat, Melissa Stephan, James D. Balog, Bob Janzef, Judy Janzef, Ron Vayansky, Sandy Dull, Jay Stevans, Brian Kumpf, Patricia Volpe, Mike Volpe, Betty Hazuza, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Tom Lord, Mary Ann Stevens, Carol Hevia, Bill Hevia, Jill Petros, Margaret Sensue, Janet Schork, Attorney Kansler and Jackie Kumpf.

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

Attorney Kansler stated for the record that there was an Executive Meeting held at 6:15pm to address legal issues.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

There have been 16 days of mowing done out on the roads. Two days were spent repairing signs that have wind damage or have been run over. Trees have been removed on Shaner Road and Meadow Lane after the storm. The Road Crew was out for five days patching roads. About 70 percent of the storm water project on Pinewood Road is complete. The storm pipe has been repaired on Greenhills Road.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Pat Schmidt

No Report is available due to Ordinance Officer absent from the meeting.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Recreation Center:

Fitness classes are the only activity scheduled at the Recreation Center at this time. The classes are all year, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings 8:00am to 9:00am. The P90X fitness classes will conclude Thursday, June 27, 2019, but will resume in the fall.

Crabapple Pool:

Memorial Day weekend and the first week of June, attendance was high with the nice weather. The last few weeks of June, attendance at the pool has declined due to bad weather and cooler temperatures. We are hoping attendance improves with better weather forecasts for the summer.

The Learn to Swim Program:

The scheduled dates are June 25, 2019 to July 23, 2019. There are 30 children registered for the program.

Pool a Palooza:

The event will be held on Saturday, August 3, 2019, from 12:00pm to 10:00pm. We just started the beginning phases of the activities and it should be a great day and evening. More details about the event will be available at the July meeting.

Rabies Clinic:

The Rabies Clinic was held June 1, 2019 at Crabapple Park. It was a huge success. Dr. Bender, who replaced Dr. Fondrk who unfortunately passed away, was wonderful. There were 88 shots administered. We want to thank the volunteers, Tracy Hampshire, Carol Keller, and Ann McWilliams for their help during the event.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting held on April 17, 2019. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Kathie Simpson is a resident, citizen, and taxpayer since 1978 and is extremely concerned about the racial intimidation issue. She asked if there was an employee discrimination policy that employees have to sign when hired. Solicitor Kansler replied that at the time that the incident happened, we did not have an employee handbook or personnel policy. Since then, the Board did adopt a handbook and personnel policy that prohibits discrimination. The previous solicitor was working on this and then we finished and passed it within months after Mr. Kansler became solicitor. Ms. Simpson then asked if we have any risk management procedures in place. Mr. Kerber stated that safety meetings are held. She also asked if Sewickley Township had a drug and alcohol policy that employees have to abide by. Mr. Kerber stated that employees are required to report that they were drinking within eight (8) hours of a call out. We also have random drug and alcohol testing. She then asked if there is a drug and alcohol free work place policy while employees are on the clock. Supervisors response was yes. She then asks the status of the KKK alleged incident and litigation and the sexual harassment of female employees. How are complaints handled? Mr. Kerber stated that nothing like that has happened to his knowledge. The KKK flag was given to an employee. The flag had been up for a couple minutes. When Mr. Kerber came in and saw it, he told him to remove it and not bring it back.

Wanda Layman asked Mr. Kerber if he was planning to spray the weeds with Round Up along the roads. Mr. Kerber responded yes. Her concerns are there are class action lawsuits and a lawsuit was awarded to a person who has cancer from Round Up. If we spray along the road, but the wind can carry that spray and land into yards where children are and can be exposed to it. She is asking that the Supervisors consider to just mow and leaving the chemicals alone. Mr. Kerber stated that the weeds are getting out of control since not spraying the last couple years and that the problems with Round Up is to the handlers, not to the public. Most of the spraying is on the country roads, not in the towns.

Lisa Phillips spoke for concern for her parents who live on Dexter Street. Behind their home is an alley that has not been paved and with recent heavy rains, their yard and house have been flooded. This has ruined many items in their home, as well as disaster restoration having to also be called to help with damage. There is a six inch ditch that leads the water straight into their backyard. She thinks it really needs paved. Mr. Kerber stated there are a few in Herminie and Rillton that need paved. That alley was partly damaged when sewage came through that area. We have not done anything to change the water flow of that alley. He will take a look at it.

Alan Fossi stated that from 2012 to 2018, he served as a Sewickley Township Supervisor. During that time, he served with Supervisor Joe Kerber and wants to review what happened. 2013, Mr. Kerber was not reappointed to his Roadmaster position due to inferior workmanship and poor management skills. Additionally in that year, the Auditors reported that there was fuel missing. The Westmoreland Co Detectives did an investigation. Recently, the KKK issue has been in the news. At the last meeting, Mr. Kerber's first answer was that he didn't know anything about it, and then he recanted his statement. The problem we have is honesty and the residents deserve to know the full truth about the flag. He is requesting that Mr. Kerber resign from the Roadmaster position. Mr. Fossi continued that the other two Supervisors put him in that position again. Mr. Merdian put him in the position in 2016 and fired a fantastic Public Works Director that getting paid about 40% of what Mr. Kerber is being paid. He is asking that if Mr. Kerber doesn't step down, that the other two Supervisors need to do the right thing and step up. Mr. Kerber responded that he went through a six month county investigation in which they found that no fuel was missing. The procedures for fuel reporting were put in place by previous Supervisors, not Mr. Kerber. As far as the KKK flag, that happened over two (2) years ago before June, 2017. When he walked out of the office and saw it, the employee taking a picture is no longer with the Township and he left in June, 2017. Mr. Fossi was still in office and the other two Supervisors were not told about the flag.

John Seanor said he travels a lot and can't always attend the meetings and wanted to know why the meeting minutes are 3 to 4 months behind being approved and posted on-line. He wanted to know why May's minutes were not approved at this meeting. The Supervisors stated the procedures for approving the minutes before posting online and that May's minutes will be on next month's agenda. He then asked Mark Petros what

improvements has he done for the community. Mr. Petros stated about the lights for Yough High School among other things.

Erika Horvat made a statement regarding Supervisor Joe Kerber and felt his actions have opened up this Township to some serious lawsuits. He has no respect for this Township, his job, or his employees. This community deserves better. His unintelligent and guilty response to his actions is to make untrue and nasty statements about me. The way I was treated in this office over the last year was quite nasty. I worked in this community for the past 11 years at First National Bank in Herminie and here at the Township for over four years. That's over fifteen (15) years in this community. That's longer than Kerber has been a Supervisor. I know and have serviced a lot of people in this community and they are disgusted and disturbed by his actions of making false statements about me and other employees also within this Township. I have a large and respected family base here and very loyal friends. Give it up. Your actions show that this community deserves better and asks that the other two Supervisors to do what's best for this Township and be transparent with the Township Solicitor about what's been going on around here. As of now, I do have complete confidence and trust in the other two Supervisors here tonight to do the right thing going forward and to take the necessary steps to fix this and move the Township forward and in the right direction.

Jay Stevens of Wineberry Ridge Court stated that the developer gave them a date of June 30th to be done with the development. He has now backed that date up. Mr. Stevens is concerned about the hillsides. According to the building code, they need to be monitored for drainage. They are falling down and standing water. Can the engineers look at that? Mr. Kerber stated that would be under the Conservation District. Mr. Stevens then asked if the Township has accepted the road yet? We are waiting for a couple of items from Mr. Serakowski.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to ratify the hiring of Jacquelynn Kumpf as the full time Township Clerk on June 4, 2019. Her rate is \$14.25 per hour. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to disburse 2018 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lowber Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

S & T Bank – mortgage payment	\$ 602.25
Herminie Auto Parts – fire truck repairs	\$ 122.08

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to disburse 2018 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Rillton Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Schulte's – squad truck maintenance	\$ 413.63
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Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to disburse 2018 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

WCCC – training classes	\$ 355.00
Oliver Kiehl – cpr / aed / first aid classes	\$ 45.00
HC Global – portable radio batteries	<u>\$ 558.00</u>
	\$ 958.00

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to disburse 2018 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Bearcom - monthly maintenance on portable radios	\$ 92.00
Esri – annual renewal of gis system	\$ 596.00
FNB Credit Card – balance of 4 pumps & hoses	<u>\$ 84.52</u>
	\$ 772.52

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to adopt Resolution 18-2019 approving the Elizabeth Township Act 537 Plan update. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to adopt Resolution 19-2019 approving the Chevron Agreement to pay for and also do improvements on Curry Road, Kunkle Road, Brunazzi, Road, and Chopp Street. Solicitor Comments: This is contingent upon Solicitor and Engineer approval. Board Comments: Mr. Merdian asked what type of improvements will be made. Mr. Kerber responded that they will widen Kunkle and Brunazzi. On Curry Road, it will be widened and 4 inches of base coat and 2 inches of top coat. Chopp will be an overlay and pay to replace storm pipes. Has to be done by September 1st. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve the Squillace Subdivision Plan #2 located on Dick Station Road. This plan was approved by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to schedule the 2019 Crabapple Pool a Palooza to be held at Crabapple Park & Pool on Saturday, August 3, 2019. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to hire Emma Gates as a 4th year Lifeguard at the rate of \$9.00 per hour. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to correct the rate for Daniel Shawl, Crabapple Concession, from \$8.35 to \$8.10 per hour effective from the beginning of the season. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to ratify Janet Schork to work over her allotted hours on the payroll date of May 24, 2019, May 31, 2019, and June 14, 2019. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, 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 10352 to 10382 - \$ 46,420.72 (5/22/19)	ACH Payments: Columbia Gas - \$ 43.25 (6/5/19)
Checks 10383 to 10404 - \$ 12,128.31 (6/5 & 6/19)	First Energy - \$ 303.31 (5/28/19)
Checks 10405 to 10417 - \$6,574.74 (6/11/19)	First Energy - \$ 8.84 (5/28/19)
	First Energy - \$ 91.09 (5/28/19)
	First Energy - \$ 109.18 (5/28/19)

Crabapple:

Checks 4676 to 4682 - \$ 1,733.11 (5/23/19)	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 48.08 (5/28/19)
Checks 4683 to 4691 - \$ 9,819.48 (6/6/19)	First Energy - \$ 17.30 (5/28/19)
Checks 4692 to 4697 - \$ 2,475.99 (6/11/19)	First Energy - \$ 108.84 (6/10/19)
	First Energy - \$ 132.40 (6/10/19)

Liquid Fuels:

Check 504 - \$ 10,066.24
Check 505 - \$ 16,444.40
Check 506 - \$ 18,501.97
Check 507 - \$ 11,939.50
Check 508 - \$ 2,587.76

Recreation:

Checks 2826 to 2827 - \$ 282.06 (5/23/19)

ACH Payments: Columbia Gas - \$ 33.80 (6/5/19)
First Energy - \$ 370.40 (5/28/19)
First Energy - \$ 13.59 (5/28/19)
First Energy - \$ 16.71 (5/28/19)

Payroll Invoices:

Check 5839 - \$ 555.37 (5/23/19)
Checks 5877 to 5878 - \$ 3,084.19 (6/6/19)
Check 5905 - \$ 432.72

ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,209.62 (5/24/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 4,199.04 (5/31/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 3,227.04 (6/7/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 1,331.34 (5/31/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 914.86 (6/11/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 4,175.42 (6/14/19)
Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,678.38 (6/21/19)

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

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

Employees Payroll:	(twp)	5/24/19 - \$ 11,881.82
	(pool)	5/24/19 - \$ 2,301.78
	(twp)	5/31/19 - \$ 14,897.79
	(pool)	5/31/19 - \$ 2,992.04
	(twp)	6/7/19 - \$ 11,681.56
	(pool)	6/7/19 - \$ 2,699.85
	(twp)	6/14/19 - \$ 14,774.80
	(pool)	6/14/19 - \$ 3,207.34
	(twp)	6/21/19 - \$ 11,174.58

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to reject bids for the previous paving and drainage work contract for Creek Road and Dick Station Road. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to submit for bids for paving work and drainage work for Creek Road and Dick Station Road. Gibson-Thomas will write the specifications to be opened and awarded at the July Meeting. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve a Railway Training Class scheduled for September 7, 2019. EMA is having a Railway Training Class that is State Certified and limited to 45 people. EMA is requesting approval for \$600.00 for the cost of the class. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

New / Old Business

Brian Merdian stated he spoke to Peter Krupp, the owner of ProSite Systems, Inc. The company is located in Herminie at the old Maytag store. The company offers security and fire protection services. Peter Krupp put in a request to install, at no charge to the Township, and set up a portable GPS security system at Crabapple Park that will also be used as a demo for potential customers and to promote his business.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve ProSite Systems, Inc., to temporarily install cameras at Crabapple Park pending Solicitor Kansler's recommended legal review. This will be free of charge. Public Comments: When does it record? Is it on a loop? Mr. Merdian stated that it only records when there's heat or motion. It is not constantly recording. Another resident asked if it was time and date stamped.

Mr. Merdian answered yes. Linda Harvey asked if this is going to be permanent. Mr. Merdian responded at this time, it is just temporary for a few month period. No estimate of cost after the promotional period. Janet Schork stated that this is a prototype and Mr. Krupp is looking to get a patent for it. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, 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. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:44pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer