

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, July 17, 2019, at 7:00 pm, 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, Millie Blانش, Terri Couch, Erika Horvat, Jim Harvey, James Balog, Marianne Errett, Wanda Layman, Linda Harvey, Debbie MacPherson, Kathie Simpson, Bob MacPherson, Nancy Neel, Richard Neel, John Seanor, Marci Suggars, Jeff Suggars, Alan Fossi, Lisa ???, Tom Saraka, Sandy Dull, Jill Petros, Brian Kumpf, Margaret Sensue, Kathy Kerber, Judy Janzef, Bob Janzef, Betty ???, Chuck Slebodnick, Carol Hevia, Linda Knor, Elizabeth Guardasoni, Brent Robinson, Glenn Wees, Jack McWilliams, Tom Lord, Attorney Kansler, and Susan Leukhardt.

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

Mr. Petros stated for the record that there was an Executive Meeting held at 6:15pm to address personnel and legal issues.

Public Hearing for Proposed Ordinance 3-2019 concerning noise as advertised in the Tribune Review on Tuesday, June 18, 2019 and Tuesday, June 25, 2019.

Solicitor Kansler explains the purpose for the Public Hearing and the details of the advertised noise to the Zoning Code. This amends the Zoning Code by adding a supplemental regulation providing standards for noises generated by uses of land.

Sandy Dull asked if fire whistles are included in the Ordinance. She understands that tornado warnings have to be louder. Solicitor Kansler responded that sound originating from emergency equipment would be exempt from this Ordinance so fire sirens would be exempt from the noise requirements.

Wanda Layman asked about farming equipment. Solicitor Kansler responded equipment used for commercial farming, nurseries, golf courses is excluded.

Residents asked about fireworks. They are not in the Ordinance due to them being regulated by state law. He recommends calling the State Police if you have an issue. Kathie Simpson asked about community organizations having scheduled fireworks displays. Under this Ordinance, fireworks that are a part of a community organized or non-profit event would be exempt so long as they are not excessively loud in the context of the event.

Linda Harvey asked if this Ordinance will be voted on tonight or will it be brought back to another meeting for vote. Solicitor Kansler stated that it is on the agenda and can be passed tonight on the Board's discretion. This was given to the County Planning Department and our Planning Commission for their comments and was advertised three (3) separate times in the Tribune Review and has been available for public inspection. Linda Harvey has concerns over our advertising procedures. Mrs. Layman asked if it was on the website. Ms. Simpson stated that a lot of residents do not receive the Tribune Review and asked if the vote can be delayed.

The Hearing is closed.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

There have been sixteen (16) days of mowing on the sides of the roads. Two (2) days were spent repairing road signs. Trees were removed on Shaner Road and Volk Road. The road crew was out patching roads for five (5) days. There was storm repair on General Braddock Road, Shaner Road, Volk Road, and Scott Haven Road. Two storm pipes were replaced on Kunkle Road. Paving has been started on Pinewood Road. Also, there are repairs and replacements needed on roads due to recent storms. If anyone would like to see pictures of storm damage to various roads in the area, they are available for review. These pictures were taken after the rain stopped.

Kathie Simpson asked when complaints arise after a storm, how do you prioritize what gets repaired first? Mr. Kerber replied that what will get repaired first are roads where people are not able to get out of their house. It is coordinated with Emergency Management, Glenn "Skip" Wees, and when a road is closed, that is the top priority.

A resident stated he called during the storm about the flooding on Shaner Road. The lower bridge and lower drains were clogged and the bridge was breached at the bottom. He said the road crew drove right past that up to the top of the hill without clearing any lower drains that basically opened up a dam. Mr. Kerber stated that they came through with a rubber tire loader. The backhoe was at the top. They could not get through because it was already washed out. The resident asked why the road crew was not able to let that water subside for a bit or clear the lower drains first. Mr. Kerber stated that the road was covered and there was no road left. The machine drove in to the washout and went down 3 feet. That is when he backed out. The resident believes that if the lower drains were cleared first, the houses would not have been flooded down below. Mr. Kerber stated that he cannot comment on how it was handled there. He was at the Township Building assisting Mr. Wees with filling sand bags.

Kathie Simpson asked if the road crew consults with Mr. Kerber. Mr. Kerber answered yes and they were on Volk Road first. After the rain stopped, the pipes were flowing at full capacity and the roads were covered with at least a foot of water. Pictures were available to look at.

A resident stated that she has been in her home for 18 years and it is located at the bottom of Shaner Road. For the past seven (7) years, she believes we don't do preventative maintenance like we used to. Mr. Kerber stated that they replaced almost every pipe on that road. She says the ditches haven't been pulled. Her home has had water along three (3) sides of it and the creek along the back. The creek did not breach. It was the water that was coming down Shaner that ate at her land. She has a foot from her house left from the creek in certain spots. Mr. Kerber stated that we are trying to resolve the problems. Mr. Wees stated that we had an inch and a half of rain in 30 minutes. It wasn't just Sewickley Township, every community around here got flooded. The resident asked who is going to shore up the creek where all the unnecessary water came through. Mr. Kerber responded that unfortunately is on private property. She then asked about all the debris and stone that was left in the her grass from the storm.

Another resident stated they had so much water on Hildenbrand Road and Apples Mill Road that they were like a river. Everybody got it and when it happens, the residents clean it up. Hempfield and North Huntingdon have holes everywhere and they are trying to patch them. Mr. Kerber stated that last year was a vicious circle. Any road we fixed, we would get a bad rain weeks later and it would be all washed out again. Our entire paving project money last year was spent on stone. The work on Pinewood was scheduled to be done last year. That is what we are trying to do right now. A resident asked if Shaner Road will be paved? Mr. Kerber stated that he cannot answer that. If we get another storm like we just did, we will be in the same boat like last year. Right now, the asphalt plant is shut down due to it being struck by lightning. We can't get material.

Daryl Dermotta asked what the time table is for cleaning catch basins and pipes. Mr. Kerber stated that they try to do it every time they are out patching. The resident asked if it is weekly, monthly, or what? Mr. Kerber stated a couple times a year. We have a seven (7) man crew. When we are paving, we need the entire crew. Mr. Dermotta believes a lot of the damage would not happen if the pipes were cleaned. Ms. Simpson believes we should have a computerized system of tracking when pipes were cleaned out. Mr. Kerber stated that we know the roads that have problems and we go to them every time it rains.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Pat Schmidt

Patrick is absent, no report available. Residents feel he should've submitted a report for the Supervisors to read. Mr. Merdian stated that it will be addressed.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork (read by Mark Petros)

Recreation Center:

Fitness classes will continue year round on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings in the Yoga/Fitness Room from 8:00am to 9:00am. The P90X fitness class will resume in the fall.

Crabapple Pool:

Even with the poor weather, it's been a very busy pool season so far and everything is going well. Swim Lessons Session 2 started on Saturday and continues through August. The Pool A Palooza Summer Celebration has been scheduled for Saturday, August 3rd from 12:00pm to 10:00pm. The day will include discounted admission. Members are free, \$.75 hotdogs, Chick-Fil-A sandwiches and nuggets, free popcorn with purchase, Kona Ice Truck from 1:00pm to 4:00pm and 8:00pm to 9:30pm, 50/50 drawings, chance to win a 2020 pool pass, and DJ Brandie from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. "Elvis", Eddie Steen will be performing from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Fireworks will be at 9:30pm. Let's hope the weather will cooperate! Brian Merdian stated that this event is not using tax payer dollars. The funds have come from donations from businesses and private individuals.

Emergency Chemical Spill Response Plan:

As part of our commitment to keep Crabapple Pool safe for our employees and patrons, we're working with Walt Lipinski, EMA Deputy Director, and Eric Kline, Herminie Fire Chief, to come up with a plan in case of a chemical emergency at Crabapple Pool. The final plan will be added to our current Emergency Action Plan for the Pool. We are in the beginning stages of the planning process. We have toured the facility, listed our pool chemicals, and evaluated ingress and egress for the park and the pool in case of a chemical emergency. The motion on the agenda is a list of the requested improvements for the plan. We will continue meetings through August culminating in an Emergency Chemical Spill Drill in September.

A resident asked what do they do right now if they have a chemical spill? Are they trained enough that they can get out of harm's way? Mark Petros said they are trained, but this will be additional training. They have done all the safety training if there is an emergency, but this is additional training with Eric and EMA. It will be more evacuation training. A resident asked if they had an evacuation plan right now? Yes they do. Mr. Petros stated that Walt Lipinski is very good at EMA training.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meetings held on April 29, 2019, May 15, 2019, and June 19, 2019. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Daryl Dermotta of Rodebaugh Road said you can't get into his road at all. Mr. Kerber stated they are trying to get all the roads open. Mr. Dermotta said all he needs is 2 buckets loads of stone.

Kathie Simpson of Wolfe Lane is following up on the previous month's meeting that she is concerned about the KKK flag and what the status of that is. She understands that personnel issues are not for public comment, but she thinks that the community deserves to know the status is. Is there pending litigation against the Township? The Supervisors' and Attorney Kansler, stated in unison that there is nothing that they are aware of. Ms. Simpson said that at the last meeting, it was stated that there was an Executive Meeting to address litigation. Is there pending litigation against the Township? Attorney Kansler said they are involved in various litigation issues but none concerning these particular issues Ms. Simpson is questioning. Ms. Simpson is concerned about risk management, the training of the Supervisors when newly elected and of a new employee when hired. She brought in a Business Code of Ethics that she used in her own business and gave it to Solicitor Kansler. How are road complaints handled when they call in? The Township should be handled like a business. Ms. Simpson went on to say that she understands the Township just received a lot of money from all the gas drilling. She said it was on the front page of the Tribune Review that the Township received \$12 million. The Supervisors clarified that the number may have been for the County as a whole, not just the Township. Mr. Merdian stated that our Act 13 funds are open to the public and are budgeted every year. That number would not even approach anywhere near there and that is totally inaccurate information. He would like to see the article that states the Township got \$12 million. Another resident said it stated \$1.2 million since 2012. Mr. Merdian said in 2018, the Township got \$148,000.00 and this year, the Township is getting \$256,000.00. If you look at an accumulative total over 7 or 8 years, yes, \$1.2 million is attainable.

Chairman, Mark Petro stated there is a five minute time limit on public comment. Please keep the public comments relative to the current meeting agenda.

Nancy Bickus Neel of 30 Derr Road stated that her husband noticed a raccoon by her cellar door. It was daylight and the raccoon was breathing and was moving. They called the Pennsylvania Game Commission and they tried to send someone out to take care of the raccoon. They called Ms. Neel back and due to the State not funding it, they were very short on people to handle the raccoon. They said to call the State Representative and complain that they are short on staff and they can't attend to these matters. Their response to the Neel's was they needed to deal with this raccoon on their own. The Neel's also called their State Representative Office to inform them about this too, and their response also was that the Neel's needed to handle the raccoon on their own. The Neel's did take care of the situation. The response back from the State Representative and the Game Commission was once the raccoon was killed, the Neel's needed to put it in a garbage bag and put it out for the trash. Is there another source that can take care of rabid animals instead of us residents? The Neel's also asked them if they had to do tests for rabies and they said no. She would like to know how the Township feels that citizens of this community have to deal with rabid animals. Mark Petros said we could look into it. Brian Merdian said it falls out of the Township's jurisdiction. We can only do so much about animal control. We have a dog catcher in place, but those type of nuisances fall under the State. Solicitor Kansler believes that Hoffman's, our animal control people, could not take anything other than domestic animals. Mr. Merdian said it's not something the Township can handle and it's his recommendation to call the State Representative and State Senator. If the Neel's want the Supervisors' to engage in a discussion with the State Representative and State Senator, they will.

John Seanor of 985 Yukon Road asked if Hoffman is our dog controller. Mark Petros answered yes. Mr. Seanor then asked Mr. Kerber if there is a timeframe on when Tomajko Road will be open. Mr. Kerber said that is a County contractor doing that road so he doesn't have an answer for that.

Chuck Slobodnik of 197 Slobodnik Road stated his road over the last 6 months actually got worse than they were last year. There is a spot at the top that the patch that was done last year that has ripped into two big holes. Another area that had just one rut now has two ruts. You have to go off the side of the road to get past them. And there is another very big hole down below the ruts. Mr. Kerber stated that he was down there before the rain and was planning on getting it fixed but the crew is elsewhere now working on storm repair. It is back on the board to be fixed.

Resident Carol Hevia of 419 Wineberry Ridge Court wanted to know if the road has been approved for snow removal. Mr. Kerber replied no due to it not passing the Engineer's inspection. There is still deficient work from the site and we will not take it over until the Engineer clears it. She asked if the Engineer will notify the Contractor. Solicitor Kansler said yes and he got a copy of the letter today. She also asked if dogs are not on a leash, would the Township handle that or their HOA. Solicitor Kansler said generally a dog crossing property lines would be a private dispute between the property owners. Addressing it in your HOA would probably be the best way to deal with it. She asked if the Township had a dog ordinance that all dogs have to be on a leash. Solicitor Kansler stated yes. Dogs are not permitted to run at large.

Elizabeth Guardasoni of 111 Andy Lane stated that Shuglie Hill is really bad. Mr. Kerber stated that he is aware and will have to put in bigger material to keep it from washing away.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to adopt Ordinance No. 3-2019 amending the Township of Sewickley Zoning Code by adding a Supplemental Regulation providing standards for Noise Generated by Uses of Land. Board Comments: Mr. Kerber stated that there is a time line on this. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to use Act 13 Impact Fee Funds to pay the following invoice:

Gibson-Thomas Engineering – 2019 cdbg storm sewer replacement \$ 18,297.77

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 Lower Volunteer Fire Department as follows:

S & T Bank – mortgage payment	\$ 602.25
Josh Payne – basic life support training	\$ 400.00
Josh Payne – aed pads	\$ 336.00

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 Department as follows:

Schulte's Towing & Repair – quint 14 vehicle maint	\$ 1,222.68
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Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to disburse 2018 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Department as follows:

Webb's Service Center, Inc – engine state inspection and service	\$ 655.14
Pro-Am Safety, Inc. – air pack maintenance	\$ 1,001.79

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 Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Bearcom - monthly maintenance on portable radios	\$ 92.00
Esri – annual renewal of gis system balance	\$ 3.18
Comcast – monthly office phone & internet (2 mos)	\$ 249.97 & \$ 250.58
Carrot-Top Industries – US and PA flags for office	\$ 380.89
Premier Safety – (3) id badges	\$ 302.72
Lowe's – (4) ford 2200 generators	\$ 2,833.84
FNB Credit Card – 4 in 1 camera	\$ 95.95

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve Pay Estimate No. 2 to A. Folino Construction for the CDBG Herminie Storm Sewer Replacement Project in the amount of \$256,044.51. Sewickley Township's portion is \$4,962.76. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Bids were received and opened on July 15, 2019 at 11:00am for the Turnback Road Reconstruction Project. One bid was received from Derry Construction in the amount of \$363,681.50.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to award the Turnback Road Reconstruction Project, Contract 2/2019, to Derry Construction in the amount of \$363,681.50. Board Comments: Mr. Merdian clarified that this relates to Creek Road and Dick Station Road. Mr. Kerber stated that this does not include guide rails. These are turn back roads and PennDOT gives us money for them. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve necessary computer hardware replacements and Office 365 Integration at the Township Office and Recreation Center in the amount of \$10,851.00. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve Susan Leukhardt and Jackie Kumpf to attend "Basic Training for Municipal Secretaries and Administrators" on August 13, 2019 from 9:00am to 4:00pm in Washington County. Office will be closed that day. Registration fee is \$75.00 each and they will be reimbursed for travel. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to close the Township Office at Noon on Friday, August 9, 2019 so the Township employees may attend the Annual Picnic hosted by the Westmoreland County Association of Township Supervisors at Mammoth Park. Employees will be paid their regular hourly rate while attending this event. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to donate one (1) 10 day admissions pool pass for Crabapple Pool to the 1st Annual Michael Pils Memorial Bike Run on August 17, 2019. Value is \$75.00. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to ratify the installation of a small plaque / monument in honor of Grady Hoffman adjacent to the Little League Field. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to proceed with the following action items in compliance with our Chemical Spill Response Plan at Crabapple Park & Pool:

- * Add/install a double-gate by playground for staging ambulance & fire trucks (baseball parking lot)
- * Educate pool staff on symptoms of chlorine poisoning; add to Crabapple Pool's Emergency Action Plan
- * Install a wind/weather vane on top of Pool Storage Building to determine wind direction
- * Install a Commercial Knox Box at the main park gate

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to ratify Janet Schork to work over her allotted hours on the payroll dates of June 28, 2019, July 12, 2019, and July 19, 2019. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 10418 to 10437 - \$ 29,079.32 (6/25/19)	ACH Payments: Columbia Gas - \$ 26.03 (7/5/19)
Checks 10438 to 10443 - \$ 31,189.14 (6/26 & 6/27/19)	First Energy - \$ 320.98 (6/27/19)
Checks 10444 to 10453 - \$ 17,265.04 (7/2/19)	First Energy - \$ 8.23 (6/27/19)
Checks 10454 to 10469 - \$ 29,357.12 (7/10/19)	First Energy - \$ 107.53 (6/27/19)
Checks 10470 to 10492 - \$ 27,975.15 (7/17/19)	First Energy - \$ 130.91 (6/27/19)
	MAWC - \$ 62.79 (7/13/19)
	S & T Loan - \$ 5,252.37 (6/15/19)
	S & T Loan - \$ 2,487.28 (6/30/19)

Crabapple:

Checks 4698 to 4706 - \$ 3,572.23 (6/26/19)	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 289.34 (6/27/19)
Checks 4707 to 4709 - \$ 197.92 (7/5/19)	First Energy - \$ 18.19 (6/27/19)
Checks 4710 to 4718 - \$ 4,834.25 (7/10/19)	First Energy - \$ 109.33 (7/10/19)
Checks 4719 to 4722 - \$ 1,650.50 (7/17/19)	First Energy - \$ 133.03 (7/10/19)

Liquid Fuels: Check 509 - \$ 10,206.85 (6/26/19)	Check 512 - \$ 690.00 (7/17/19)
Check 510 - \$ 3,277.00 (6/26/19)	Check 513 - \$ 680.40 (7/17/19)
Check 511 - \$ 21,597.00 (7/2/19)	Check 514 - \$ 16,736.00 (7/17/19)

Recreation:

Check 2828 - \$ 167.06 (6/26/19)	ACH Payments: Columbia Gas - \$ 34.65 (7/5/19)
Check 2829 - \$ 13.99 (7/10/19)	First Energy - \$ 322.05 (6/27/19)
Check 2830 - \$ 145.88 (7/17/19)	First Energy - \$ 13.42 (6/27/19)
	First Energy - \$ 16.32 (6/27/19)
	MAWC - \$ 123.90 (6/19/19)
	MAWC - \$ 39.55 (6/19/19)

Payroll Invoices:

Checks 5964 to 5965 - \$ 2,693.25 (7/2/19)
Check 6023 - \$ 440.22 (7/17/19)

ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,863.98 (6/28/19)
Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,095.68 (7/5/19)
Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,152.34 (7/12/19)
Payroll Liabilities - \$ 1,040.83 (7/17/19)
Payroll Liabilities - \$ 5,164.98 (7/19/19)

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

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

Employees Payroll:

(twp)	6/28/19 - \$ 14,644.08
(pool)	6/28/19 - \$ 6,209.49 (2 weeks pay)
(twp)	7/5/19 - \$ 13,052.31
(pool)	7/5/19 - \$ 5,021.54
(twp)	7/12/19 - \$ 14,963.53
(pool)	7/12/19 - \$ 3,836.63
(twp)	7/19/19 - \$ 17,374.37
(pool)	7/19/19 - \$ 3,964.60

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

No New or Old Business

With no further business to come before the Board, Brian Merdian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Kerber. Voting: Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer