

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, November 20, 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 Marianne Errett, Wanda Layman, Donald Layman, Kathie Simpson, Daryl Dermotta, Millie Blانش, Carol Fotaro, Jay Stevens, Mary Ann Stevens, John Seanor, Erika Horvat, Mark Horvat, Tom Gradisek, Marci Suggars, Jeff Suggars, Rick Critchfield, Tim Luft, Paul Rupnik, Bill Luzar, Jean Jones, Bob Janzef, Judy Janzef, Linda Harvey, Ann McWilliams, Jack McWilliams, Patricia Volpe, Mike Volpe, Carol Hevia, Margaret Sensue, Kathy Kerber, Linda Knor, Janet Schork, Solicitor Kansler, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

An Executive Session was held on November 20, 2019 at 6:15pm to discuss legal matters.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

Berming of Curry Road is complete. We had one day of repairing signs. One day patching roads. Black top on Apples Mill is complete from where the patches are from the storms. Paving on Hildenbrand is complete. We spent four rainy days hauling in anti-skid with our own trucks. We were out one day salting roads. We put up the Christmas lights in Herminie. We are constantly working on a storm water project in Hutchinson. The days that are suitable to work, we will be there working. To date, the Township has placed 13,920 tons of black top down. Jay Stevens if the Township was reimbursed for Pinewood Road. Mr. Kerber responded that it was our own project paid through our Liquid Fuel Fund. Daryl Dermotta asked where the money came from for Hildenbrand Road. Mr. Kerber replied that it came from Sunoco. The total given to the Township for Hildenbrand, Apples Mill, Angelcyk, and Kalamazoo was \$185,000.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Joe Poscatko (given by Brian Merdian)

Summary from the past month... 45 violations are open with 11 being rectified with the owners complying with the Ordinance. Negotiating five (5) violations by working with the owners. Six (6) violations have enforcement pending. Four (4) have criminal complaints filed and 25 are awaiting expirations to begin the enforcement phase. Some of the locations are Herminie Madison Road, 5th Street, Lily Street has had numerous complaints, inspections along Lowber Road, Township wide. John Seanor asked why it has taken over a year to see what is going on with his neighbors. He has contacted Senator Kim Ward just to get something done. Mr. Merdian stated that Mr. Poscatko has been looking into this situation. A resident from Wineberry Ridge asked about building materials that have been there for two years. Mr. Serakowski is done with this material and the residents have asked him to remove them. Is this something that she should report to the Ordinance Officer? Mr. Merdian stated that he is making a note to have him take a look at it.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Park & Pool:

Final winterizing at Crabapple Park and Pool and baseball fields have been completed. Thank you to Clint Strosko and the Road Crew for all their hard work.

Recreation Center:

Once again rental spots are filling quickly for the Recreation Center. All weekday evenings are filled, as well as our returning morning senior groups. Saturday mornings and Sunday afternoon and evenings are fully rented. Free, open gym is offered to the public on Monday & Friday afternoons from 12:30pm-3:30pm.

Discount Ski Tickets:

The Recreation Office will once again be offering discount ski tickets for Seven Springs and Hidden Valley Resorts. They will be available at the Recreation Center Office on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Jump Start Sports Camps:

We currently have 18 registered for the Little Hoop Jump Start Basketball Program running Saturday mornings through December. Starting in January, we will run indoor soccer program for three to six year old children. In February, another basketball program for 1st & 2nd grade age children will be offered.

Gym Painting:

A huge thank you to the Yough Youth Soccer Association Coaches and Parents for helping put a fresh coat of paint on the interior gym walls! They did a great job!

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meeting held on October 16, 2019. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Wanda Layman asked about the solid waste contract prices. Was Waste Management the only bidder? Mr. Petros stated that two (2) bids came in and Waste Management came in the lowest overall. There is a slight increase for the regular residential rate, but it is a very good deal for our seniors. A discussion to explain the rates further was held. Mr. Merdian stated that the age for the senior rate is 65 and the resident contacts Waste Management to notify them.

Jay Stevens is checking the status of snow removal on Wineberry Ridge Court. Solicitor Kansler stated that the request has to come from the owner of the road which would be Mr. Serakowski. The reason being is that we can't have someone who doesn't own the road requesting us to do it because it would be considered trespassing on our part. And if our plow would cause any damage to the road, we could be sued for that damage. Mr. Stevens read from the Developers Agreement regarding snow removal. That the Developer could be billed for \$500.00 for the Township to do the snow removal. Mr. Stevens stated that during the last snow, he walked the road to salt it by hand. Also, there is still no guide rail at the bottom. If someone wrecks from that, the Township, the Developer, the Conservation District, the engineering group, and the HOA could be sued. In August, Mr. Serakowski stated that the road would be fixed in 30 to 45 days.

Mary Ann Stevens asked about the bond being reduced. Solicitor Kansler stated that the surety is permitted to ask for reduction of the bond based upon the amount of work that's been done and what is to be done. The Township had two (2) contractors go to the property and give us written price quotes to fix the asphalt improvements and then to install the guiderails on both sides down by the in the ponds. Those amounts came back in around \$72,000 for both and added 15% to give us a buffer. The bond now is around \$85,000. Mrs. Stevens asked why the bond wasn't pulled when the bond was approximately \$262,000. The Supervisors can't be lenient any more. Are there monies involved in pulling someone's bond. Solicitor Kansler stated that generally it does include a degree of litigation. We can not comment any further.

Rick Critchfield asked if Library Avenue is a township road and why is it allowed to be blocked by residents. If they are going to use it as a private driveway, why does the Township salt and pave it? Mr. Merdian stated that there is an agreement from many years ago that is still in place that allows them to use it. Mr. Kerber stated that the reason that it was paved is because when sewage came through, it became a gravel road. The gravel kept washing down into our storm pipes and plugging up our system. The stone also washed into properties on the opposite side that we had to clean up at least four (4) times. We had to pave it to keep the erosion from going on to private property and plugging up our storm system.

Mr. Critchfield then asked about 4th Street and Main Street by the old bank. Someone dug that out and left a big hole. Mr. Kerber stated he will take a look at it. He then asked about the progress on the new Rec Center. Mr. Merdian stated that we are still securing the funds. The sell of the Sewage Authority is still pending.

Tim Luft stated that Rillton roads are bad. Maple and Ash Streets need paved. Herminie roads are nice where Rillton hasn't been touched in years. On Pine Street, people are parking on the road at night. Emergency vehicles will not be able to get through. Same issue at dentist office.

Bill Luzar asked about the street lights at the Hutchinson firehall. Mr. Merdian stated that it is with West Penn Power. We are waiting for their final approval. Mr. Luzar then asked if there is a chance to not have the residents of Hutchinson pay the street light tax since it's being voted on tonight. Mr. Merdian stated that is a Township wide assessment. How much was allocated in the budget for Hutchinson roads? Mr. Merdian stated that 90% of the 2020 road repairs is allocated for Hutchinson. He then asked how much the employees pay for their health benefits. Mr. Merdian stated the employees pay 10% of the health benefits. Kathie Simpson stated that the Township is paying too much money for health benefits that the residents aren't getting. Solicitor Kansler stated that we have to go with the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Mr. Luzar then asked Ms. Schork if the heating and a/c systems are checked at the Rec Center. Ms. Schork stated it is checked every year. He then asked where the roadway reconstruction project was located. Mr. Kerber stated that was Dick Station and Creek Roads. We will be reimbursed from PennDOT and then the Act 13 Fund will be reimbursed from Turnback.

Judy Janzef thanked Mr. Kerber for doing Hildenbrand and Apples Mill Roads. They have never been that nice in 40 plus years. Hopefully you stay on as Public Works Director. Thank you for all you're doing.

Carol Hevia asked if the Township has reached Mr. Serakowski since their meeting on Friday. Mr. Kerber stated that is in the hands of our Solicitor. Why do the residents have to be on hold for so long to get something done? Why does everything have to go through Mr. Serakowski? Mr. Kerber stated that the bonding company is giving him every opportunity to make it correct. Ms. Hevia stated that Mr. Serakowski is impossible to reach. It's like he is above and beyond everyone's control. Mr. Kerber met with him and he is just as frustrated with him.

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

S & T Bank – mortgage payment	\$ 602.25
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Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; 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:

Webb's Service Center - two (2) invoices for tanker & aerial	\$ 3,860.87
Ray's Spring Shop – springs for tanker pumper	\$ 1,949.33

Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; 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
Comcast – monthly office phone & internet	\$ 251.10

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to advertise the availability of the Proposed Budget for 2020 with public inspection being made possible at the Municipal Building between the hours of 8:00am and 3:30pm beginning Thursday, November 21, 2019. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to adopt Resolution No. 21-2019 establishing the real property taxes for fiscal year 2020 at 11.25 mills for general Township purposes, 2 mills to support ambulance, rescue, and other emergency services, .75 mills to light the highways, roads, and other public places in the Township, and .25 mills to establish and maintain fire hydrants and fire hydrant water service in the Township, on each dollar of assessed valuation of property located within the Township of Sewickley. This is not an increase from the previous year. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve the Shoaf Plan #2 located on Apples Mill Road. This subdivides Lot 1 containing 1.09 acres from the residual plot containing 97 acres. This plan was approved by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to accept the Bond Penalty Reduction for Bell Rock Development, LLC from \$262,475.00 to \$85,091.30 effective 10/29/19. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve Resolution 22-2019 approving the Paid-Up Oil and Gas Lease with Chevron Appalachia, LLC concerning real property with Tax Map Number 58-07-11-0-263. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve and ratify the execution of the DCED correspondence confirming the decertification of special tax district, previously approved by the Township. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to consent to Westmoreland County Housing Authority's NPDES Permit, Permit Number PA-0097047. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to approve Resolution 23-2019 approving the 2019 Automated Red Light Enforcement Agreement for the HW Good Elementary School signal system. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to adopt Resolution 24-2019 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 2019-2020 will be \$850.50 and paid in January, 2020. There is no increase for this service. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to renew Property and Casualty Coverage for all Sewickley Fire Companies with Varine-Slavin using Selective at the premiums below. Policy is effective from December 18, 2019 to December 18, 2020.

Herminie Fire Company:	\$ 13,079.00
Lowber Fire Company:	\$ 15,513.00
Rillton Fire Company:	\$ 11,134.00
Hutchinson Fire Company:	\$ 11,099.00

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

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to ratify the purchase of a Blaw-Knox RW100 Road Widener from Blacklick Equipment Sales & Rental, LLC in the amount of \$9,999.00. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to authorize the renewal of Township health insurance through UPMC Health Plan with an increase of 9.0%. The estimated annual premium is \$245,078.40. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposals were opened, read aloud, and recorded on Monday, October 14, 2019 at 10:00am for Solid Waste Collection for the Township of Sewickley. They are as follows:

	Waste Management					Westmoreland Sanitary Landfill, LLC				
	2020	2021	2022	Total	Pts	2020	2021	2022	Total	Pts
Option A (40-30-20-0)										
Fixed Price Per Unit	\$ 22.26	\$ 23.04	\$ 23.85	\$ 69.15	30.00	\$ 19.00	\$ 19.57	\$ 20.16	\$ 58.73	40.00
Option B (40-30-20-0)										
Sr Citizen Price/Unit	\$ 17.00	\$ 17.60	\$ 18.22			\$ 17.10	\$ 17.61	\$ 18.14		
Sr Citizen Price/Bag	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.07	\$ 2.14			\$ 4.07	\$ 4.19	\$ 4.32		
	\$ 19.00	\$ 19.67	\$ 20.36	\$ 59.03	40.00	\$ 21.17	\$ 21.80	\$ 22.46	\$ 65.43	30.00
Option C (15-10-5-0)										
2Yd 1X/Week (Per Mth Price)	\$ 49.00	\$ 50.72	\$ 52.50	\$ 152.22	15.00	\$ 115.00	\$ 119.00	\$ 122.00	\$ 356.00	10.00
4Yd 1X/Week (Per Mth Price)	\$ 59.00	\$ 61.07	\$ 63.21	\$ 183.28	15.00	\$ 132.00	\$ 137.00	\$ 141.00	\$ 410.00	10.00
Roll-off, 6Yd, 8Yd Containers	\$ 812.00	\$ 840.00	\$ 869.00			\$ 785.00	\$ 850.00	\$ 900.00		
				Total Pts	100.00				Total Pts	90.00

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to award the Solid Waste Garbage Removal Contract for the Township of Sewickley to Waste Management effective January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2022. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to advertise for the position of Public Works Director. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to ratify Clint Strosko to work over his allotted hours on the payroll date of November 8, 2019. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Derry Construction Co. – Dick Station Rd construction balance	\$ 49,120.76
Derry Stone & Lime Co. – three (3) invoices for anti-skid	\$ 6,897.33
Gibson Thomas Engineering – stormwater management	\$ 689.28
Gibson Thomas Engineering – roadway reconstruction project	\$ 12,798.28

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

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

General Fund:

Checks 10685 to 10701 - \$ 28,921.92 (10/22/19)	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 313.21 (10/28/19)
Checks 10702 to 10707 - \$ 13,764.74 (10/25/19)	First Energy - \$ 165.52 (10/28/19)
Checks 10708 to 10727 - \$ 65,126.97 (11/4/19)	First Energy - \$ 79.47 (10/28/19)
Checks 10728 to 10755 - \$ 24,794.95 (11/13/19)	First Energy - \$ 19.83 (10/28/19)
Checks 10756 to 10768 - \$ 98,735.06 (11/20/19)	Columbia Gas - \$ 53.91 (11/1/19)
	MAWC - \$ 62.79 (11/14/19)

Crabapple:

Checks 4765 to 4766 - \$ 560.51 (11/4/19)	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 68.83 (10/28/19)
Checks 4767 to 4771 - \$ 506.48 (11/13/19)	First Energy - \$ 27.20 (10/28/19)
	First Energy - \$ 134.95 (11/8/19)
	First Energy - \$ 110.84 (11/8/19)

Payroll Invoices:

Checks 6225 to 6226 - \$ 2,623.14 (10/31/19)	ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,550.94 (10/18/19)
Check 6235 - \$ 440.22 (11/14/19)	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 791.20 (10/18/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,782.50 (10/25/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,713.86 (11/1/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 1,964.90 (11/1/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 158.00 (11/1/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 113.41 (11/1/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 1,274.72 (11/4/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 638.98 (11/5/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,761.70 (11/8/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,841.00 (11/15/19)
	Payroll Liabilities - \$ 991.35 (11/20/19)

Recreation:

Checks 2838 to 2839 - \$ 392.69 (10/22/19)	ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 123.90 (10/17/19)
Checks 2840 to 2841 - \$ 235.95 (11/4/19)	MAWC - \$ 30.97 (10/17/19)
Check 2842 - \$ 382.01 (11/13/19)	First Energy - \$ 333.15 (10/28/19)
Checks 2843 to 2845 - \$ 459.62 (11/20/19)	First Energy - \$ 17.34 (10/28/19)
	First Energy - \$ 13.74 (10/28/19)
	Columbia Gas - \$ 53.50 (11/1/19)
	MAWC - \$ 123.90 (11/19/19)
	MAWC - \$ 30.97 (11/19/19)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,415.56 (10/4/19)
First Energy - \$ 660.95 (10/4/19)
First Energy - \$ 415.68 (10/4/19)
MAWC - \$ 2,763.50 (10/15/19)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,428.79 (11/1/19)
First Energy - \$ 664.54 (11/1/19)
First Energy - \$ 417.93 (11/1/19)

Turnback: Check 1037 - \$ 329,000.00 (9/20/19)

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

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

Employees Payroll:	(twp)	10/25/19 - \$ 11,641.63
	(twp)	11/1/19 - \$ 11,204.28
	(twp)	11/8/19 - \$ 11,490.91
	(twp)	11/15/19 - \$ 12,103.65
	(twp)	11/22/19 - \$ 12,856.32

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

New / Old Business

Presentation from Energy Transfer:

Chris Coup works in Public and Government Affairs for Energy Transfer. They have merged with Sunoco Pipeline. He has been working on the pipeline project here in the Township for six (6) years. He is saying thank you to the community, the neighbors, the Board of Supervisors, and to everyone for being so patient and hospitable and showing good will to them as they have been building the pipeline, Mariner East 1 and Mariner East 2, through Sewickley Township. He introduced his colleagues and explained their roles. Josh Ward is the permit agent whose responsibility was to work with the Road Department to make sure that the roads were left in good condition. He was pleased to hear the good comments from the residents about how the roads are now that they are done. Their goal is to leave the roads in as good, if not better than when they got here. Mr. Coup's responsibility was to make sure there was a good line of communication with the Board of Supervisors and the land owners. He then displayed some photos of the areas where the pipeline was installed.

The Township Office will be closed on Thursday, November 28, 2019 and Friday, November 29, 2019.

The Township Office will close at Noon on Friday, December 20, 2019 for the annual Christmas Party.

Sewickley Township's 20th Annual Light Up Night will be held on Saturday, December 7, 2019. Doors open at Noon at the Herminie Fire Hall with registration for Pet Parade at 12:30pm. Hayrides are from 1:30pm to 4:00pm. Parade on Sewickley Ave begins at 4:30pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Brian Merdian made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe Kerber. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:01pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer