

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, December 18, 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, Millie Blانش, Bob Janzef, Judy Janzef, Jill Petros, Jim Harvey, Linda Harvey, Erika Horvat, Chuck Schropp, Alan Fossi, David Lash, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Mary Ann Stevens, Jay Stevens, Glenn Wees, Kathy Kerber, Karen Ruddon, Joe Poscatko, Janet Schork, Solicitor Kansler, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

An Executive Session was held on December 18, 2019 at 6:30pm to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Joe Kerber, to amend the December 18, 2019 agenda. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Kansler read the updated Public Comment Rules for the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meetings. These rules are attached.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the updated Public Comment Rules for the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meetings. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber

Not counting today, we were out three (3) days salting roads. The Road Crew was out one (1) day repairing / replacing signs that were blown over. We were out one day patching. Wash out repairs were made on Shuglie Hill Road and berm repairs on Sewickley Hill Road. Hauled antiskid to the Township Building for three (3) days. Replaced storm pipe on Church Street. Repaired a storm pipe on Shaner Road. We are continually working on a storm water project in Hutchinson. Sherman Street is complete. We are now working on Jackson Street and it is getting close to being complete.

Report from Ordinance Officer, Joe Pocsatko

Summary from November 21, 2019 to December 18, 2019... Fifty-four (54) open violations throughout the Township. Six (6) have been rectified with the owners complying with the Ordinance. Negotiating five (5) violations by working with the owners. Twenty-seven (27) violations are being ignored and have enforcement pending. Nine (9) have criminal complaints filed.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Recreation Center:

Everything is running smoothly at the Recreation Center with most slots filled.

Father/Daughter Dinner Dance:

The Volunteer Recreation Committee and I will be hosting the 2nd Annual Yough Snowball Father/Daughter Dinner Dance. The details are as follows: Saturday, February 29th from 5:00pm to 9:00pm at the Crystal Ballroom, Herminie. Cost is \$30 for adult and \$20 for child (ages 4-12). Price includes admission, buffet dinner catered by Rodney's, and a Souvenir photo. This event is open to all Yough Area Residents. Tickets will be on sale for one day only... Saturday, January 11th from 11:00am to 1:00pm at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building.

Jump Start Sports Camps:

Our Little Hoop Jump Start Basketball program concluded last Saturday. We had 18 participants. Starting in January, we will run an indoor soccer program for 3 to 6 years old. In February, another basketball program for 1st and 2nd grade age children will be offered.

Discount Ski Tickets:

I have received the discounted ski lift tickets for 7 Springs and Hidden Valley. They will be available at the Recreation Office Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:00am to 4:00pm.

Open Gym:

Free, open gym is on Monday and Friday afternoons from 12:30pm to 4:30pm.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Meeting held on November 20, 2019. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Daryl Dermotta asked about the new set of rules for public comment. Mr. Merdian clarified that if you see an item on the agenda, this is the time to ask about it. Mr. Dermotta asked how can he ask a question about item 17 if you haven't got there yet. Mr. Merdian stated that the rule is to contain the public comment to this section of the meeting. You would ask that question now and not when we get to the motion. Mr. Dermotta asked what brought this about. Solicitor Kansler stated that we only had three (3) rules. We brought the rules more into compliance with Roberts Rules of Orders which generally are the rules for parliamentary procedures which this is considered. Generally, how meetings work is that you have your public comment at the beginning of the meeting for the public to comment on agenda items or whatever they would like to talk about. Once the business section of the meeting starts, that's the Board's meeting and they conduct business as a Board. Mr. Merdian stated that any question can be asked about any item on the agenda during Public Comment.

Jay Stevens thanked the Board for their efforts on getting snow removal done on Wineberry Court. He then asked the Ordinance Officer if he has talked to Mr. Serakowski about the left over construction material at the top of the street. It's been there for two (2) years. Mr. Pocsatko replied that he spoke to Mr. Serakowski. He has not complied so we will be taking the appropriate action.

Glenn Wees, EMA Director, informed the Supervisors that Nixle is no longer providing a free version to its subscribers. We currently do not have the abilities to reach our residents' mobile phones as we did before. As of now, we can only alert by email which is ineffective and dangerous during emergency situations that require public notification. We would need to enroll in a paid application called Nixle Engaged to continue to ensure Emergency Management's ability to keep our residents safe and to provide vital information. This application does have more benefits. Mr. Wees listed them. The cost of this program is \$3,300 per year and is set for three (3) years. Mr. Merdian asked if there is another option out there other than Nixle. Savvy Citizen is an option. The Township Office can also send out alerts. We can also use it for Rec events. Mr. Merdian asked for a copy of the proposal. Mr. Wees then stated that they are working on applying for two (2) grants. One being for a drone and the other for an early warning weather alert system. We are also working on a new mitigation plan for the Township. They had a meeting last week with the County.

Karen Ruddon is representing the Herminie Methodist Church. She is wondering if there is any action on the house next to the church. Mr. Petros stated that there may be some positive action, but we can't say right now. Ms. Ruddon asked if the Church would be notified when a private company comes in to demolish the house. We would want to have eyes on the church since it's so close. She then stated the concern of a demolition company coming into their parking lot with large equipment. The Supervisors stated they would need the church's permission to go onto their property.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, 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. 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 Herminie Volunteer Fire Department as follows:

Rescue Store LLC – hurst blue fluid	\$ 222.00
WCCC – firefighter II skill for marincic	\$ 75.00

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 Hutchinson Volunteer Fire Department as follows:

Kush Kustoms – replace siren on rescue 85	\$ 450.00
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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
Comcast – monthly office phone & internet	\$ 251.10

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

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to adopt the General Fund Budget for the Township of Sewickley for the fiscal year 2020. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to accept Linda Harvey's resignation as Tax Collector effective December 31, 2019. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to ratify the Solicitor's initiation of the bond default proceedings concerning the Wineberry Ridge Development project. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to consent to the sale of tax map parcel 58-14-00-0-028 pursuant to a bid made to the Tax Claim Bureau and directing the Secretary to advise the Bureau of the same in writing. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve the Zoning Board to attend "The Course in Community Planning" on January 15th, January 22nd, and January 29th from 6:00pm to 9:30pm at the New Stanton Borough Building. Registration is \$95.00 per member. Voting: Mr. Merdian, yes; Mr. Kerber, abstain; Mr. Petros, yes. Motion carried.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to advertise for the monthly rental of an excavator with 24" and 36" buckets and hoe pack. Must be a 30,000lb rated machine. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to advertise the Reorganization Meeting for the Board of Supervisors to be held on Monday, January 6, 2020 at 7:00pm located at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to establish the regular monthly meeting location for the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building, 2288 Mars Hill Road, Irwin PA 15642. The dates on which the Board of Supervisors shall meet will be the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm and to advertise the same in the Tribune Review in accordance with the Sunshine Law. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve Resolution No. 25-2019 entering into a contract with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels through December 31, 2021 at the rate \$180.00 per month for twenty-four (24) months paid by the Township. Overtime calls will be charged at the rate of \$95.00 per call. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve Resolution No. 26-2019 authorizing the execution of the distribution agreement with MSATS. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to allow the Recreation Director and the Recreation Committee use of the Sewickley Township Municipal Building Meeting Room on Saturday, January 11, 2020 from 11:00am to 1:00pm to sell Father/Daughter Dinner Dance Tickets. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to permit the Sewickley Township Public Library free use of the Recreation Center Gym on Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 12:15pm to 4:15pm for their Nerf Battle Youth Activity. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 10769 to 10785 - \$ 7,927.06 (11/26/19)
 Checks 10786 to 10807 - \$ 8,014.96 (12/5/19)
 Checks 10808 to 10831 - \$ 19,965.05 (12/11/19)
 Checks 10832 to 10848 - \$ 18,120.23 (12/18/19)

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 288.04 (11/26/19)
 First Energy - \$ 179.55 (11/26/19)
 First Energy - \$ 30.18 (11/26/19)
 First Energy - \$ 8.28 (11/26/19)
 Columbia Gas - \$ 171.03 (12/4/19)
 S & T Loan - \$ 5,252.37 (12/16/19)

Crabapple:

Checks 4772 to 4773 - \$ 185.36 (12/11/19)

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 54.21 (11/26/19)
 First Energy - \$ 18.83 (11/26/19)
 First Energy - \$ 134.95 (12/9/19)
 First Energy - \$ 110.84 (12/9/19)

Payroll Invoices:

Check 6242 - \$ 3,053.66 (11/26/19)
 Check 6245 - \$ 101.70 (12/3/19)
 Check 6249 - \$ 440.22 (12/11/19)

ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,088.80 (11/22/19)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,616.56 (11/29/19)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 680.50 (12/4/19)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,525.52 (12/6/19)
 Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,160.68 (12/13/19)

Recreation:

Checks 2846 to 2847 - \$ 246.13 (11/26/19)
Checks 2848 to 2849 - \$ 285.34 (12/5/19)
Check 2850 - \$ 168.16 (12/18/19)

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 397.81 (11/26/19)
First Energy - \$ 18.17 (11/26/19)
First Energy - \$ 14.27 (11/26/19)
Columbia Gas - \$ 258.00 (12/4/19)
MAWC - \$ 48.12 (12/18/19)
MAWC - \$ 123.90 (12/18/19)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,436.37 (12/4/19)
First Energy - \$ 666.62 (12/4/19)
First Energy - \$ 419.24 (12/4/19)

Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, 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) 11/29/19 - \$ 11,026.76
(twp) 12/6/19 - \$ 10,568.47
(twp) 12/13/19 - \$ 13,040.13
(twp) 12/20/19 - \$ 10,871.65

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

New / Old Business

Mr. Merdian stated to Mr. Kerber that it's been a pleasure serving with you for the past four (4) years and thank you for your twelve (12) years of service as a Supervisor of Sewickley Township.

The Township Building will be closed on Wednesday, December 25, 2019 and Wednesday, January 1, 2020.

The Township Building will close at Noon on Tuesday, December 24, 2019 and Tuesday, December 31, 2019.

We would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season!

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brian Merdian. Voting: Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber, Mr. Petros; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:29pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer

Meetings of the Board of Supervisors

Public Comment

1. Public comment shall be available to all citizens and tax payors of the Township.
2. Persons providing public comment must sign in. Persons who do not sign in will not be permitted an opportunity to comment.
3. Public comment shall only occur during the public comment section of the agenda, and each commenter shall be limited to five minutes. Comments shall not be permitted during the business section of the meeting.
4. Persons providing public comment must state their name and address prior to making their comment.
5. The only person permitted to speak is the person who has been recognized by the Chairperson of the Board. Persons will be called upon and recognized in the order that they are listed in the sign in sheet. Persons not signed in and not recognized by the Chairperson shall not comment, unless otherwise recognized by the Chairperson.
6. Groups may have a spokesperson.
7. Please be advised that this is an opportunity for the public to make comments to the Township. Members of the Board are not required to answer questions and will not engage in debate.
8. We ask that your comments not be unduly repetitive, dilatory or disruptive. The Chairperson may ask a person who is being unduly repetitive or dilatory to summarize and conclude their comment, so that others may comment.
9. Making comments criticizing and/or disagreeing with positions or decisions are perfectly acceptable, but persons attending meetings are expected to conduct themselves with decorum and civility. They should show the same respect to others that they wish to have shown to them. Speakers during public comment and people in the audience must refrain from abusive or profane remarks and slanderous, personal attacks wholly unrelated from Township business. Loud, disruptive behavior or other actions which interfere with the orderly conduct of the meeting will not be tolerated.
10. Public comment shall be permitted for a period of time not to exceed 30 minutes. The Chairperson of the Board may allow additional time under special circumstances.