

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 7:02pm, called the Regular Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order as advertised in the Tribune Review on Monday, December 28, 2020. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Mark Petros, Brian Merdian, and Linda Harvey. Also attending the meeting were Donn Henderson, Tom Mignogna, Janet Schork, Solicitor Mark Hamilton, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

An Executive Session was held this evening, September 15, 2021, at 6:30pm to discuss personnel issues.

Report from Township Manager / Treasurer, Donn Henderson

Account	Beginning Balance	Deposits / Interest	Transfers / Payments	Ending Balance
AUGUST, 2021				
FNB General Fund	\$ 106,488.86	\$ 113,717.70	\$ 178,846.29	\$ 41,360.27
PLGIT General Fund	\$ 318,818.57	\$ 89,042.78	\$ 125,574.42	\$ 282,286.93
FNB Reserve Account	\$ 114,644.92	\$ 18.12	-0-	\$ 114,663.04

Report from Public Works Director, Tom Mignogna

This month's Safety Toolbox meeting and video was on Heat Stress & Exposure. We had 31 PA One Call requests to locate and mark our stormwater pipes. The mowing tractor has been out every day. Some roads have been cut back three (3) times. The containment lagoons in Lowber were cut back for the Westmoreland Conservation District. We had three (3) days of clean up after the August 17th storm. We trimmed the pine trees along the Little League field first base side to make way for the lighting. Installed a wedge curb along Diamond Alley in Cowansburg to control runoff. We have been doing work on the roads that are under contract to be resurfaced. We have cut the shoulders and cleaned the ditches along upper Slaughter Hollow Road, Greenhills Road, and Shuglie Hill Road. While on Greenhills Road, we repaired the soft spots and bad shoulder areas. Brunazzi Road had three (3) storm water cross pipes replaced and about 150 feet of berm that was redone. We are in the process of putting a scratch coat of material on General Braddock areas where it is needed before it gets tar and chipped. We need all the guys on the job. Signage is done as needed. Stop signs are on top of the list and handled right away.

Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork

Crabapple Pool:

- Crabapple Pool is now closed for the season.
- Although the weather was erratic, attendance was steady throughout the season and we achieved our number one goal of having no accidents or major injuries.
- Pool manager, Yvonne Shawl, Assistant Pool Managers, Megan Vanyo, Julia Dandar, and Emma Gates all did an excellent job managing daily operations; Also, credit to our Maintenance, Concession, Lifeguard Staff, and Road Crew --- they were all outstanding.
- Once Fall baseball, soccer, and football conclude, water can be turned off and we can finish facility winterizing procedures.
- As we do at the end of each season, we will evaluate what went right and what we can do to improve our customer's pool experience next year.

Recreation Center:

- I am currently accepting reservations from our resident sports' groups for the 2021-2022 gym season at the Recreation Center.
- November 1st is set as the "open" date for resident groups to reserve any available spots. After November 1st, I will take reservations from non-Sewickley Township/Yough School District groups.
- On the agenda are the rentals rates for the Board of Supervisors' review. Due to the Covid pandemic and the financial strain placed on our residents, my recommendation is for no change to the rental rates from last year.

Fitness Classes:

- Our Fitness Classes resumed on September 7th. The Fall/Winter schedule is as follows:
 - P90X Cardio Class on Thursday mornings from 9:30am to 10:30am
\$10.00 a class or \$80.00 for ten (10) classes
 - STEP Class on Tuesday mornings at 9:30am
\$5.00 a class
- We are looking for a Yoga Instructor.

Report from Emergency Management Coordinator, Skip Wees

Emergency Management is reaching out to local churches for people to be housed in cases of emergency. We also have a chaplain on the team. During the last storm, we went into Storm Mode. Fire Chiefs were notified that morning. EMA were on call in case of the need to open the Emergency Management Center. We were prepared to house and feed forty five (45) individuals. Mr. Wees then asked for an update on the EMA Building and what will happen if it sells. Mrs. Harvey repeated what she stated at the last meeting that she reached out to Rillton Fire Department personally to possibly have EMA relocate there temporarily until space at the Township Building is ready. Mr. Wees stated that it is not feasible to work out of there due to it taking months to set up all their equipment. Mr. Wees then asked about the space here in the Township Building. They would like to be informed and updated about the process of building the space. They need specific wiring and a secured area. Mr. Henderson asked again about the specs for the drone. We will get it advertised as soon as we receive them. Mrs. Harvey asked Mr. Wees how many people are on the EMA staff. Mr. Wees listed their personnel and duties. Mr. Henderson asked about the status of the generator. Mr. Wees stated the parts are ordered through Pitt Industrial. Mr. Petros went back to the sale of the EMA Building and would like to see something to give EMA more time if the office here isn't ready. He recognizes the issues with moving all of their equipment. We have to wait to see if anyone puts a bid on it. Emergency Management is willing to take over the building, expenses, and upkeep through the 2-mil tax money. Mrs. Harvey stated we can set up a meeting to discuss everything further.

Sewickley Township Public Library Events and Programs, Marci Suggars

We will be hosting a Disney 101 Program in October with tips and tricks for planning a Disney Vacation. The Children's Library is working on having a four (4) week beginners dance class with Beth Biroscak who does our tumbling classes at story time periodically. Our diaper distributions continue to be very popular. We have been holding them on the same day that St Edward's "Kindness Closet" and food bank are open. This seems to work very well as people can stop at both places, the first Wednesday of each month.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the agenda as presented below. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Bryan Cosalter asked why the Township is hiring another attorney? What is the cost to the Township? Solicitor Hamilton stated that labor relations is a highly specialized area which Campbell Durrant does.

Rick Diemert introduced himself to the Supervisors as he is quoting the general liability and workers compensation insurance for the Township. He spoke of ways to save money on workers comp insurance to separate the policy between fire fighters and the Township employees.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting held on August 18, 2021 and the Special Meeting held on August 31, 2021. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to disburse 2020 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Bearcom – monthly maintenance on portable radios	\$ 92.00
Comcast – monthly EOC phone & internet	\$ 257.38

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to disburse 2020 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

First National Bank – monthly payment for radios	\$ 363.63
F.A.S.T. of the Allegheny Mts – repairs on Engine & Rescue 15	\$ 891.00
Pro-Am Safety Inc – testing / repairs on Air- Paks	\$ 1,195.01

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to disburse 2020 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lowber Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Westcom – portable radios, programming, headsets	\$ 13,185.00
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Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Change Order #1 for the 2021 Shot and Chip Program, Contract 3/2021, in the amount of \$7,592.00 was TABLED.

Brian Merdian made motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the sending of CDBG Local Match letters to Westmoreland County Community Development Division for the following projects.

Village of Rillton (Storm Drains) – \$56,640
Village of Rillton (Paving) - \$74,991
Whyel Area Roads (Paving) - \$45,345
Crabapple Pavilion Playground - \$5,933

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to purchase Bituminous Stockpile Patching material (cold mix) through Hei-Way, LLC which is also through the COSTARS Program. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to retain Campbell Durrant, P.C. for Labor Council for the Township of Sewickley. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to accept proposals for the renewal of Township Property, General Liability Insurance, and Workers Compensation Insurance from various companies. These will be reviewed and voted on at the September 21, 2021 Special Meeting. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the Capital Asset Policy for Sewickley Township. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to adopt Resolution 27-2021 allocating funds from the American Rescue Plan Account to General Fund in the amount of \$121,088.22. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to adopt Resolution 28-2021 acknowledging the receipt of the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the non-uniformed pension plan in the amount of \$26,602.00 and incorporate the amount into the 2022 General Fund budget as the State Aid Pension payment and the Township payment to the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the Plaque Donation Policy for Sewickley Township. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the following rental rates for the 2021-2022 season at the Sewickley Township Recreation Center. These rates are recommended by the Recreation Director.

Sewickley Township Resident Rental	\$ 40.00 per hour
Non-Sewickley Township Resident Rental	\$ 60.00 per hour
Weekday Monday through Friday 9:00am to 3:00pm	\$ 20.00 per hour
Birthday Party Resident Rental	\$ 50.00 per hour
Birthday Party Non-Sewickley Township Resident Rental	\$ 55.00 per hour
Senior Monday & Wednesday Morning Basketball Flat Rate	\$ 775
Senior Friday Morning Volleyball Flat Rate	\$ 260
Senior Sewickley Township Indoor Flyers Flat Rate	\$ 575
The Church Gym Class One (1) Hour Weekly Flat Rate	\$ 150
Yoga/Fitness Room Monthly Rental	\$ 100 per month

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Brian Merdian, to allow Moriah Rose to host a fundraiser called "Costume Contest 1 Mile Fun Run/Walk" at Crabapple Park on October 16, 2021 at 10:00am. This is a service project for Samaritan's Purse, an international relief organization that ships gifts outside the United States to children affected by war, poverty, natural disaster, famine, and disease; and to children living on Native American reservations. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Brian Merdian made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to accept the Halloween Activities as follows:

Saturday, October 30, 2021

12:30pm – Parade line up at Herminie VFW

1:00pm – Parade begins at Herminie VFW and ends at the Herminie Firehall for prizes and treats

3:00pm to 6:00pm – Trick or Treating

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the use of Crabapple Park and Pavilion on Saturday, October 23, 2021 by the Sewickley Township Recreation Committee and the Sewickley Township Public Library for their Trunk-n-Treat event. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 12103 to 12130 - \$ 57,035.72 (8/31/21) ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 185.85 (8/18/21)
 MAWC - \$ 62.13 (8/18/21)
 First Energy (8 payments) - \$ 648.03 (8/25/21)
 Columbia Gas - \$ 30.95 (9/1/21)
 First Energy - \$ 44.54 (9/7/21)

Act 13:

Checks 1130 to 1131 - \$ 543.54 (8/31/21)

Crabapple:

Checks 4861 to 4866 - \$ 2,798.69 (8/31/21)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 1,294.69 (8/18/21)
 MAWC - \$ 61.95 (8/18/21)
 First Energy - \$ 360.30 (8/25/21)
 First Energy - \$ 33.12 (8/25/21)
 First Energy - \$ 126.10 (9/7/21)
 First Energy - \$ 104.33 (9/7/21)

Cred Card Machine - \$ 95.66 (9/10/21)

Payroll / Paychex ACH Liabilities:

Paychex - \$ 197.13 (8/20/21)

Paychex - \$ 200.58 (8/27/21)

Paychex - \$ 190.23 (9/3/21)

Paychex - \$ 129.85 (9/10/21)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,678.28 (8/20/21)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,626.38 (8/27/21)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,741.61 (9/3/21)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,830.23 (9/10/21)

Recreation:

Check 2935 - \$167.86 (8/31/21)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 123.90 (8/18/21)

MAWC - \$ 30.97 (8/18/21)

First Energy (3 payments) - \$ 345.18 (8/25/21)

Columbia Gas - \$ 38.98 (9/1/21)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,364.00 (9/2/21)

First Energy - \$ 641.42 (9/2/21)

First Energy - \$ 403.47 (9/2/21)

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

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

Employees Payroll:	8/27/21 - \$ 9,673.28 (twp)	\$ 2,402.39 (pool)
	9/3/21 - \$ 10,529.98 (twp)	\$ 3,696.63 (pool)
	9/10/21 - \$ 9,911.37 (twp)	
	9/17/21 - \$ 10,183.12(twp)	

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

General Public Comment

Daryl Dermotta asked for an update on the paving of our roads. Mr. Henderson stated that the tar and chip program will most likely be delayed until Spring of next year. The State is not issuing extensions. Mr. Dermotta went on to say that the new administration is more "top heavy" than the road crew. The roads need attention. Mr. Petros stated one of the delays with getting the road project started is figuring out the finances to pay for such a large project. Mr. Merdian stated that what we were doing is fiscally sound and responsible because we did not award the contracts until we clearly had the funds available. No loans or TAN note is needed. We are doing this with cash on hand. Mr. Merdian went on to say about the Township Manager position, having Mr. Henderson on board with all his experience and knowledge to bring to the table is in the best interest of the taxpayers dollars.

Cheryl Campbell stated that there is no need for the Rillton Dollar General be brought to Clay Pike as there is one in Herminie and another in North Huntingdon. Dollar General estimates 35 cars turning in per hour off Clay Pike. This is not safe. There have been accidents in her yard already. She went on to read a portion of the Zoning Ordinance about diminishing property values within the neighborhood. She has documents that show it will do that to her property.

Eric Campbell stated that there will be kids walking to the Dollar General from the area and it will be dangerous for them to do so. He also has concerns of people going onto his property and things go missing.

Mary Beth Wees asked for a way for the Supervisors to communicate to the community what the Township is doing. Residents shouldn't have to come to the meetings to find out what's going on. Maybe a Facebook page, newsletter at the post offices, Nixle, etc. Mr. Petros stated that we are looking to update the website so that will help.

Margaret Sensui asked if the Supervisors can help the residents affected by the Rillton Dollar General. Mr. Petros stated that nothing has come before the Board yet. It is still with the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Henderson added that the subdivision has to go through the Planning Commission before coming to the Supervisors.

New / Old Business

The Board of Supervisors are looking for any persons interested in serving on the Sutersville-Sewickley Municipal Sewage Authority. Please send letters of interest to the Sewickley Township Municipal Building for consideration.

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Supervisors will be held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 7:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Linda Harvey made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark Petros. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mr. Merdian, Mrs. Harvey; yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Township Secretary