

Chairman, Mark Petros, on Wednesday, August 17, 2022 at 7:00pm, called the Regular Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order as advertised in the Tribune Review on Thursday, January 6, 2022. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Mark Petros, Linda Harvey, and Bill Dull. Also attending the meeting were Tom Methven, Solicitor Lee Demosky, and Susan Leukhardt.

Mark Petros led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report from Secretary-Treasurer, Susan Leukhardt

Account	Beginning Balance	Deposits / Interest	Transfers / Payments	Ending Balance
JULY, 2022				
FNB General Fund	\$ 77,980.17	\$ 117,768.79	\$ 112,383.88	\$ 83,365.08
PLGIT General Fund	\$ 359,736.96	\$ 28,657.50	-0-	\$ 388,394.46
FNB Reserve Account	\$ 140,956.14	\$ 1,097.69	-0-	\$ 142,053.83

Report from Public Works Director, Tom Methven

We responded to 62 PA One Call requests this month for the Township to locate and mark our storm water pipes. Patching potholes are being done as complaints come in. Now that we have moved to a project first schedule, we will patch holes during inclement weather or breakdowns. Right-Of-Way mowing is still occurring on the roads. Sight distance issues are handled first, then the mower is working its way around the Township. If you see the tractor, please slow down and pass, when possible, with care. We are trimming back bushes and trees this year, so progress is taking longer than past years. Please be patient. If your road hasn't been mowed yet he will get there, and you have not been forgotten about. The mower is working the roads off Mars Hill Road this week and next week. During road surveys for future road improvement projects, I have noticed an alarming amount of road signs missing or vandalized. When the schedule permits, we will start to replace signs on our roads. Every time we replace just a green street sign, it costs us \$80.00. When we have to replace a STOP sign, post and all, it costs \$213.65. A speed limit sign with post is \$154.86. The crew has had to put up the same STOP sign at Curry and Cool Springs Roads two (2) times this month. If you notice a STOP sign down or damaged, please call the Public Works Department immediately. We want to get those fixed as soon as possible. People are still dumping truckloads of construction waste, tires, furniture, and appliances along our roads. We picked up more waste this month. If you see anyone dumping, please get a description or license plate number so we can call State Police. We again had vandalism this month at the Crabapple Park and Pool Complex. Someone had a campfire built on the walking path and left beer cans all over the ground. All the gates around the pool fence were pulled on to be forced open. One of locks broke open and the gate was opened. No buildings were broken into. The new 30mph signs were installed on Pinewood Road last week making the new speed limit official. If you notice excessive speeding on that road, please call the Pennsylvania State Police. Repairs were completed to the main sewer drain for the pool. The old terracotta line was plugged and broken. The Columbia Gas line replacement project in Herminie is in progress. This will last all summer while NPL crews work in phases to update the gas lines. The contractor is ahead of schedule so phase 3 of the project was approved, and all the lines will be replaced this year. Please be patient and aware there will be daylight street closures and flaggers during the length of the project. As always, please slow down and drive through our work areas with caution.

Report from Recreation Director --- given by Mark Petros

Recreation Center:

Step and P90X classes are still being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30am to 10:30am and Body Sculpt is on Fridays at 9:30am. Yoga classes will resume in September on Wednesday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:00pm except for when we have CPR classes. CPR classes are held in the Yoga Room at the Recreation Center starting at 6:00pm on the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Days and time slots are currently being booked for the Recreation Center upcoming fall and winter seasons. Any individuals, teams, or organizations that are interested in reserving gym time should email the Recreation Center to schedule.

Crabapple Park:

A few Sundays are still available for Pavilion rental for the month of August and September for anyone interested in booking before the end of the season.

Crabapple Pool:

Saturday August 27, 2022 will be the last open day for the pool this season.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Rick Critchfield spoke about the motion entering into the inter-municipal agreement with the Borough of Sutersville. He feels fire service should stay within the Township.

Jim Phillips also spoke about the possible inter-municipal agreement with the Borough of Sutersville. He still holds true to the dual response that he has spoken of in the past. The new agreement states this is for all emergencies... from a cat in the tree to a house fire. This would be the same for dual response. Regarding terminating the agreement, it states that both parties must agree to terminate. What if Sutersville refuses to terminate? Solicitor Demosky read Paragraph 5 listing the ways to terminate the agreement. Mr. Phillips then asked if Sutersville would have to abide by Ordinance 6-2021 and would they receive some of the 2mil tax funds. Dual response is under mutual aid. Mrs. Harvey asked if there are fees involved with dual response or mutual aid. Mr. Phillips stated that you do not pay bills for mutual aid. He went on to discuss with Mark Ghion the regulations for Firefighter 1 and training standards.

Randy Walter reiterated that dual response is the way to go instead of entering into this agreement. Why should we lose money to pay Sutersville for calls in Lowber? There are 65 municipalities in Westmoreland County, and you may be the first one to designate an outside company as a provider. Let the computer pick the closest companies for any call.

Mark Ghion stated that this has been a very long process since November. A petition went around. The residents of the affected area signed it and brought it to the Township. It isn't as if additional taxes would be spent. Those residents are already spending it in that area. The only opposition of this agreement are from outside of the impacted area.

Paul Rupnik spoke about the responses of the fire companies to a vehicle accident with a garage this month. Herminie scratched. Lowber had four (4) firefighters. Rillton had three (3) firefighters. Hutchinson had two (2) firefighters and Sutersville had one (1) firefighter a little time after the call. The homeowner was very pleased with the response. Everyone is already on the calls. He then gave details of an accident the next day. Rillton, Herminie, and Hahntown responded. It was handled. We just need dual response. He went on to discuss with Mark Ghion other instances when Sutersville was out of the area on other calls and ISO ratings.

Bryan Cosalter stated that the gates at Crabapple Park are open every night. It may deter people from entering if they were closed.

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

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to disburse 2021 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	\$ 302.09
FNB Commercial Credit Card – drone & weather station supplies	\$ 272.88
Global Aerospace – insurance coverage on drone	\$ 3,592.00
The Embroidery People – EMA personnel clothing	\$ 56.00

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

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to disburse 2021 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lowber Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

1 st Out Specialty – (5) invoices for equipment & gear	\$ 4,394.85
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Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Bill Dull, to table the enactment of Ordinance 3-2022 to enter an inter-municipal agreement with the Borough of Sutersville to provide enhanced fire protection services. This motion was tabled on July 20, 2022. Board Comments: Mr. Petros stated that there was much discussion on this tonight and valid points. Mrs. Harvey has reviewed information provided by Lowber VFC to the Supervisors and spoke with the County regarding all of this. She feels if there is coverage, tax monies should stay within the Township. Dual response and mutual aid make sense to her. She doesn't know how much more can be presented about this that hasn't been already. A decision has to be made. Voting: Mr. Petros, yes; Mrs. Harvey, no; Mr. Dull, yes. Motion to table carried.

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to authorize Gibson-Thomas Engineering to prepare and submit applications to the Westmoreland County Planning Department requesting funds from the CDBG Program for the 2023 calendar year on behalf of Sewickley Township. These applications will be made to help fund projects in the following areas.

1. Rillton (cross drains)
2. Rillton Roads (paving)
3. Whyte Area Roads (paving)
4. Crabapple Pavilion Playground

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

Mark Petros made a motion, seconded by Linda Harvey, to approve the Milicki Subdivision which has Lot 1 containing 1.13 acres and Lot 2 containing 4.71 acres which both have dwellings. Lot 3 containing 3.36 acres and Lot 4 containing 3.68 acres are non-buildable parcels created in this plan. The property is located on Stewart Lane and is zoned A-1. Lots 1 and 2 have existing on-lot septic systems. Private wells are the source of water. A 50' ROW provides access to the parcels. Total acreage in the subdivision is 14.51 acres. This plan was approved by the Planning Commission. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to approve recommendation of the Sewickley Township Code Officer, Michael Stack, to accept the application to permit the utilization of a holding tank for sanitary sewage at 2271 Mars Hill Road, Rillton, Pennsylvania subject to the approval of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to adopt Resolution No. 24-2022 appointing Janet Schork as Website Administrator for the Township of Sewickley at the rate of \$ 19.00 per hour effective August 15, 2022. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Linda Harvey made a motion, seconded by Mark Petros, to adopt Resolution No. 25-2022 appointing Nancy Bickus-Neel to the Sutersville Sewickley Municipal Sewage Authority. This term is completing the term of Rich Bosko. This term shall expire the first Monday of January, 2024. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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

General Fund:

Checks 12659 to 12692 - \$ 63,103.13 (7/22/22)

Checks 12693 to 12728 - \$ 55,333.05 (8/5/22)

First Energy - \$ 39.55 (8/10/22)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 185.85 (7/20/22)

MAWC - \$ 62.13 (7/20/22)

First Energy (8 payments) - \$ 595.08 (7/29/22)

PSATS UC Group Trust - \$ 1,903.96 (8/2/22)

Columbia Gas - \$ 35.76 (8/3/22)

Act 13:

Checks 1140 to 1142 - \$ 33,553.05 (7/27/22)

Crabapple:

Checks 4921 to 4934 - \$ 9,315.17 (7/22/22)

Checks 4935 to 4943 - \$ 3,038.19 (8/4, 8/5/22)

First Energy - \$ 92.42 (8/10/22)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 3,329.92 (7/20/22)

MAWC - \$ 61.95 (7/20/22)

First Energy - \$ 267.38 (7/29/22)

First Energy - \$ 24.51 (7/29/22)

Credit Card Machine - \$ 171.82 (8/10/22)

First Energy - \$ 111.53 (8/10/22)

Liquid Fuels:

Checks 536 to 537 - \$ 97,199.76 (7/27/22)

Payroll / Paychex ACH Liabilities:

Paychex - \$ 135.15 (7/20/22)

Paychex - \$ 198.25 (7/22/22)

Paychex - \$ 205.55 (7/29/22)

Paychex - \$ 185.25 (8/5/22)

Paychex - \$ 196.20 (8/12/22)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,049.60 (7/22/22)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 3,054.59 (7/29/22)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 2,834.83 (8/5/22)

Payroll Liabilities - \$ 4,173.04 (8/12/22)

Recreation:

Checks 2976 to 2977 - \$ 287.10 (7/22/22)

First Energy - \$ 11.86 (7/29/22)

Columbia Gas - \$ 45.45 (8/3/22)

ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 123.90 (7/20/22)

MAWC - \$ 30.97 (7/20/22)

First Energy - \$ 18.06 (7/26/22)

First Energy - \$ 291.03 (7/29/22)

Street Light / Fire Hydrant:

ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 2,249.38 (8/8/22)

First Energy - \$ 610.49 (8/8/22)

First Energy - \$ 384.06 (8/8/22)

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

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

Employees Payroll: 7/22/22 - \$ 11,052.94 (twp) , \$ 2,439.34 (pool)
 7/29/22 - \$ 8,214.35 (twp) , \$ 3,504.02 (pool)
 8/5/22 - \$ 8,060.11 (twp) , \$ 2,820.80 (pool)
 8/12/22 - \$ 11,430.44 (twp) , \$ 3,225.98 (pool)

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

General Public Comment

Rick Critchfield asked when the roads in Herminie will be repaired with all the new gas lines coming through. Mr. Methven responded that is the last part of the project. Mr. Critchfield feels as though they should be working faster. Mr. Methven explained how there is a lot of abandoned infrastructure in these towns. It's not just digging a ditch and replacing. They are being very diligent and actually ahead of schedule.

Mr. Critchfield then asked where the Rillton Dollar General project stands. A resident answered that a follow-up meeting is being held with Zoning.

Bryan Cosalter asked why the \$1.4 million bank account isn't listed on the agenda. And secondly, why can't that money be used for the Rillton and Whyte projects listed and also put it towards trucks needed for winter. Mr. Petros stated that the money from the sale of the Sewage Authority is in a separate account and not part of the General Fund. The balances on the accounts can be provided to you. Regarding the trucks, Mr. Petros and Mr. Methven have discussed at great length the equipment that needs repaired and replaced. No decisions have been made.

Linda Knor asked if the same person can make the motion to table each month. Solicitor Demosky stated that it is permissible.

Randy Walter asked if anyone has spoken to County 911 about the dual response. Mrs. Harvey stated that she did.

Old / New Business

The Board of Supervisors are looking for any persons interested in serving as a Township Auditor. 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, September 21, 2022 at 7:00pm.

With no further business to come before the Board, Mark Petros made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Linda Harvey. Voting: Mr. Petros, Mrs. Harvey, Mr. Dull; yes. Meeting adjourned at 7:47pm.

Susan D. Leukhardt
Secretary-Treasurer