

# NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

## Supervisor's Meeting

December 1, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, held at the Township Municipal Building, was called to order by Chairman Greg Happ at 6:30 P.M. Present were Vice-Chairman Tom Applequist, Supervisors Fritz Retsch, Doug Martin and Mike Phipps. Also present were Manager Walter Beighey, Secretary Patricia Pfaff, Treasurer Elois Nadzak, Engineer Kevin Brett, Solicitor Chris Reese, Police Chief Ron Leindecker, Amanda Peterson and Johnny Murtha

**PLEDGE** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** *At the Board of Supervisors Meeting held on November 3, 2020 the Board adjourned the meeting to go into Executive Session to discuss road department contract negotiations. No Action was taken.*

**MINUTES** Motion by Applequist, seconded by Retsch, to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2020 regular meeting as written. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

**BILLS** Motion by Martin, seconded by Happ, to pay the bills from the General Account, from November 4<sup>th</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup> for \$156,789.98 and as of December 1<sup>st</sup> for \$158,295.53 with the signing of the checks following the meeting. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

**LIQUID FUELS** On December 1<sup>st</sup> \$308,384.03 was transferred from the Liquid Fuels Account and placed in the General Account for reimbursement of Road Department Wages, Anti-Skid and Loan Payment.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** Treasurer Elois Nadzak read her Treasurers Report for the month of November with a beginning balance of \$901,383.97 and an ending balance of \$963,075.93.

**PROPOSED 2021 BUDGET** Manager Beighey read the proposed 2021 Budget. Supervisors will take action at the December 29, 2020 meeting.

Supervisor Applequist advised the proposed budget has no tax increase.

Supervisor Retsch thanked all the Board members and staff for working on the budget.

**ORD NO. 220** Prior to the Supervisors meeting, at a duly advertised Public Hearing  
**ORD No. 221** was held for the purpose of discussing and hearing public comment on proposed amendments to the Township Zoning Ordinance relating to regulations specific to medical marijuana dispensaries and medical marijuana growers' processors. Also, on proposed amendments to the Township's Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance that are relative to submission requirements for an application for subdivision plans and land development plans; include standards for cluster mailbox units; and clarify required parking stall dimensions for recreational vehicle parks. (No citizens attended the Hearing nor any comments or questions asked.

Motion by Happ, seconded by Applequist, to adopt Ordinance No. 220

with the above provisions amending Zoning Ordinance No. 214 and Ordinance No. 221 with the above provisions amending Ordinance No. 189 the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

**ORD NO.222  
MS4  
STORMWATER  
FEE**

Motion by Mike Phipps, seconded by Tom Applequist, to implement an ordinance establishing a fee for stormwater management as proposed by Lennon, Smith Souleret Engineering, Inc. with the following fee provisions.

- Township residents with less than 10 acres will be billed annually at a rate of \$6.00 per month (\$72.00 per year) beginning January 1, 2021.
- Billing will be as follows: 2% Discount March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup> (\$70.56). Face May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> (\$72.00) 10% Penalty after June 30<sup>th</sup> (79.20).
- Those residents with more than 10 acres will have rates that have been individually calculated and their fees charged using the same discount rates and timelines. That is 2% Discount March 1<sup>st</sup> through April 30<sup>th</sup>, Face May 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>, 10% Penalty after June 30<sup>th</sup>.

Supervisor Doug Martin, questioned if there were any provisions that the gas companies had to pay the fee. Kevin Brett, the Township Engineer replied that unless they own the parcel and if not, it would depend on what is in the property owner's lease agreement. Supervisor Martin was concerned that if something would occur that the gas wells would be shut down, there is nothing the Township can do, to protect the property owner who would be liable for paying the fee as long as we have the ordinance.

Supervisor Retsch questioned if something would happen with the gas companies shutting down, could the Township change the ordinance. He was advised the ordinance could be rewritten.

Amanda Peterson, Stakeholder Relation Manager, for PennEnergy, advised that if something like that would occur, PennEnergy would reclaim the property.

Vote of 4 to 1 in favor. Martin voting NO.

**GRANT  
ACT 101  
RECYCLING**

Supervisor Applequist advised the Township was informed they were awarded \$178,380.00 from DEP for the Act 101 Recycling grant. Details of the grant will be submitted at a later date.

**BEAVER CTY  
CARES GRANT**

Supervisor Applequist reported the Township was also awarded \$173,138.00 Cares Grant. This money is reimbursement for cost that the Township incurred during the COVID Pandemic.

**TAX  
EXONERATION  
BURKHART**

Motion by Happ, seconded by Martin, on the recommendation of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, to exonerate the 2021 real estate taxes for Mr. Edwin Burkhart, 215 Dogwood Drive and Duane

- AMES** Ames, 185 Spade Road. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.
- POLICE HIRE** Motion by Happ, seconded by Retsch, to approve Police Chief Ron Leindecker to hire three (3) part time police officers and announce their names at next month's meeting. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.
- POSITIONS** Police Chief Ron Leindecker requested approval to assign the following positions to the officers listed below:
- Tom Liberty - Fulltime School Resource Officer from 2021 through 2023
  - Samantha Vinson & Darryl Webb to Part Time School Resource Officer for 2021
  - Rick Jones to be used as a replacement for Tom Liberty from 2022 through 2023
  - Gregory Pullen to Detective
- VEHICLE** Motion by Martin, seconded by Happ, to approve the Chief's recommendations of the above positions. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.
- Motion by Happ, seconded by Retsch, to purchase a 2021 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 from McElwain Chevrolet, Ellwood City, at a cost of \$50,213.88 with payment of \$10,947.23 each year for five years. Upfitting of the vehicle will be completed by Team Force at a cost of \$16,893.88. All payments will be made from the K-9 Fund, with no cost to the Township. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.
- AGREEMENT MARION TWP** Motion by Phipps, seconded by Applequist, to approve the 2021 Police Service Agreement with Marion Township with a 3% increase. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.
- MONTHLY RPT** Police Chief Ron Leindecker, read the police department's monthly report for November 2020, which included the number of police calls, vehicle maintenance, arrests and citations issued.
- PRFD** Kevin Brett, Township Engineer, advised the Plan for the Pine Run Fire Department's new building has been drafted.
- BKFD** Big Knob Fire Chief Johnny Murtha advised that due to COVID their department has shut down for non-essential matters.
- ROAD MONTHLY RPT** Manager Beighey read the Road Department's monthly report for November which included all the tasks they performed during the month.
- ENGINEER** Kevin Brett submitted his monthly written report for the Board
- Kevin also advised he received three proposals for inspections for the Public Works Garage. These inspections are not included in the contract, but needed to meet the building permit requirements.

- ACA Engineering
- Construction Engineering Consultants
- Professional Service Industries

Motion by Happ, seconded by Applequist to approve ACA Engineering to complete the special inspections needed at the garage at a cost of \$4,140.00. Vote of 4 to 0 in favor.

**SOLICITOR  
UNPAID  
INVOICE**

Solicitor Chris Reese, reported that he has drafted a letter to Crown Castle, for the unpaid invoices, but will need one more document prior to mailing. Township Secretary will get the information for him.

**PROPOSED  
ORD 223**

Chris advised he submitted a draft of an Ordinance for No Parking along Tri County Drive and Commerce Drive that can be advertised if it is acceptable.

Motion by Happ, seconded by Applequist, to approve the solicitor to advertise proposed ordinance. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

**LITIGATION**

Chris reported the Township won the preliminary motion with the Brodmerkel litigation. He said Brodmerkel's will be appealing the decision to the Zoning Hearing Board.

**PLANNING  
HOCKENBERRY**

Motion by Happ, seconded by Phipps, to approve the Hockenberry Plan of Lots located on Harkins Mill Road, contingent upon DEP approving the non-building waiver. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

**RECREATION**

Mike Phipps, representative for the Recreation Board, reported the electric is almost complete going to the amphitheater. He also said to date, they are moving forward with having Santa at the Grange.

**BOARD  
COMMENTS  
APPLEQUIST**

Supervisor Applequist reported on a list of grants the Township has received over the year. He also reported that this is the first year to his knowledge that the Township will have a Capital Reserve Account. The Supervisors would have to approve to spend out of that account.

**MARTIN**

Supervisor Martin said with this year being challenging as it's been and the Township staff has been able to come through in obtaining the grants, completing the budget and handling the expenses has been an great accomplishment and he wanted to thank the entire staff.

**EXECUTIVE  
SESSION**

Motion by Happ, seconded by Retsch, to adjourn the meeting and go into executive session to discuss a personnel matter. No action will be taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

ADJOURN

Respectfully,

Patricia Pfaff  
Secretary