

NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

Supervisor's Meeting

May 4, 2021

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 Douglas Martin, Fritz Retsch and Mike Phipps. Also present were Manager Brian O'Malley, Secretary Lawrie Borgman, Treasurer Elois Nadzak, Township Engineer Kevin Brett, Township Solicitor Chris Reese, Police Chief Ron Leindecker, Road Foreman R.J. Kraus, Albert E Horn, David Bauman, Lisa Bauman, Jessica Tatko, John Tatko, Michael Lewis, Jane Lewis, Amanda Peterson, Martin Bonzo, Dale Bonzo, Janet George, Dan Dull, Brian Perry and Johnny Murtha

PLEDGE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES

Motion by Martin, seconded by Applequist, to approve the minutes of the April 6, 2021 Regular meeting as written. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

BILLS

Motion by Phipps, seconded by Retsch, to pay the bills from the General Account, April 7, 2021 through April 30, 2021 for \$205,820.00 and as of May 4, 2021 for \$149,297.94 with the signing of the checks following the meeting. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MS4

Resident Martin Bonzo was present to express his fiscal concerns over the Stormwater Management fees as they pertain to the farm community and low-income residents. He made a plea to the Board of Supervisors to think of other avenues to raise some of the funding needed to cover the mandated expenses. Chairman Happ sympathized with the residents and explained that there is a process to receive credits in the program.

Resident Dale Bonzo was present to express his concerns for Churches and other non-profits having the burden of paying the Stormwater Management fees. Mr. Brett explained the process used is the most fiscally friendly available and asked Solicitor Reese to look into legal challenges, although he has not heard of any going in favor of the non-profits.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Township Treasurer Elois Nadzak, read the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2021.

**ADOPT RESOLUTION
NO. 04-21**

Applequist made a motion to Adopt Resolution No. 04-21 for the Sewage Facility for Single Residence Sewage George/Dull property on Wall Street, Martin seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
MONTHLY REPORT**

Chief Leindecker read the April 2021 monthly report which included all accidents, arrest, calls, citations, field interviews, incidents, and property related incidents.

**POLICE -
PERMIT ANNUAL TRACTOR
PARADE**

Happ made a motion to issue a permit for the Annual Tractor Parade on the last day of school with a police escort, Applequist seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
PERMISSION TO OFFER FULL-
TIME EMPLOYMENT TO TOP 3
CANDIDATES AS PART OF
AWARDED GRANT**

Retsch made a motion to offer full-time employment to the top 3 candidates with awarded grant, Phipps seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
APPROVAL TO HIRE 2 PART-
TIME OFFICERS**

Phipps made a motion to hire 2 part-time officers to replace the 2 who resigned, Retsch seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
IN CAR CAMERA PURCHASE
THROUGH SAFE-FLEET OF
\$70,000**

Happ made a motion to accept the remaining balance from a grant to make an in car camera purchase through Safe-Fleet for \$70,000, Retsch seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF
HERMAN SAYRE**

Happ made a motion to accept the resignation of Herman Sayre, Applequist seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**POLICE -
ADDITIONAL JAG FUNDING**

Chief Leindecker informed the Board of Supervisors of additional funding given by JAG that will pay for in-car cameras and the records management system.

BIG KNOB FIRE DEPARTMENT

Johnny Murtha read the monthly report for the Big Knob Fire Department. He informed the Board that Pine Run Fire Department was on a call and unable to be at the meeting.

**ROADS -
MONTHLY REPORT**

Road Foreman Kraus submitted his monthly report.

**ROADS -
ACCEPT BEAVER COUNTY COG
SPRING-WINTER COMMODITIES
BIDS**

Martin made a motion to accept the Beaver County COG Spring-Winter Commodities bids, Applequist seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

**ENGINEER -
MONTHLY REPORT**

Kevin Brett submitted the LSSE monthly report. Supervisor Applequist asked for another grant meeting to be scheduled.

**SOLICITOR -
ORDINANCE FOR ALCOHOL
CONSUMPTION AT GREEN
VALLEY PARK**

Solicitor Reese said the presented Ordinance is ready for adoption if the Board of Supervisors chooses to do so. He indicated the Ordinance gives the Board of Supervisors the protection of being able to grant conditional use permission for alcohol consumption to the events they are comfortable with and place conditions specific to each event.

Happ made a motion to adopt Ordinance (Number to be announced) for Consumption of Alcohol at Green Valley Park, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor. ***The Ordinance number was determined to be No. 224**

**SOLICITOR -
AUTHORIZE TO BEGIN
PROCESS TO GUARANTEE THE
PINE RUN FIRE DEPARTMENT
BUILDING LOAN**

Solicitor Reese said the process to guarantee the building loan for the Pine Run Fire Department would take approximately 3 months and is required to be advertised several times. The ordinance would be ready for the June Board of Supervisors meeting. Supervisor Martin asked what the cost to the Township would be. The Supervisors will discuss the costs with Pine Run. Brian Perry of Big Knob Fire Department expressed concerns over the Board of Supervisors not funding the additional expenses to secure the loan.

Phipps made a motion to authorize the Solicitor to begin the process to guarantee the Pine Run Volunteer Fire Department Building Loan through DCED and Local Government Unit Debt Act, Retsch seconded. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

PLANNING

Chairman Happ reminded the residents of the Public Hearing scheduled for the Amended Zoning Ordinance for May 25 at 6:00 p.m. Supervisor Martin said he had a few questions. Manager O'Malley and Mr. Brett will go over his questions in order to make adjustments to the Ordinance prior to the Public Hearing.

RECREATION

Lisa Bauman was present to give the monthly report. They were able to purchase the movie screen because of a \$500 donation from Supervisor Retsch.

The Flea Market is scheduled for May 15th from 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

They are looking into placing a sign on the amphitheater to recognize Novak's for their donation to the Recreation Board allowing them to schedule a couple bigger named bands.

**RECREATION -
APPOINT MIKE LOSCHINSKEY
TO BOARD**

Happ made a motion to appoint Mike Loschinsky to the Recreation Board upon a favorable vote at the next Recreation Board meeting, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

GRANT WRITING COMMITTEE

Manager O'Malley informed the Board of Supervisors that the two grants presented would require a large match from the Township. It was decided to table the grants at this time.

ZONING/BUILDING

The Zoning/Building monthly reports were submitted.

BOARD COMMENTS

Supervisor Martin thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

Chairman Happ offered a rebuttal to a Facebook post that indicated the current Board of Supervisors were disconnected to the residents. Chairman Happ said the Board feels very connected to the community and is always willing to listen to anyone and will do whatever they can to help the residents of New Sewickley Township.

Supervisor Phipps informed the residents of a letter they received from Mr. Rosa, Athletic Director, Freedom Area High School regarding a medical incident involving a spectator which resulted in members of the fire department, police officers along with school staff and residents pulling together to save the spectator's life. He thanked everyone for their service.

Chairman Retsch said in order to be connected to the residents of New Sewickley the Board of Supervisors sent out a survey asking what improvements are most important to them in the community. It was overwhelmingly greenspace. And as such they made many improvements to Green Valley Park for the residents' enjoyment. Chairman Retsch praised the community and said New Sewickley Township is a very special place to live and their plan is to keep it that way.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Happ, seconded by Retsch to adjourn the meeting. Vote of 5 to 0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lawrie J. Borgman
Secretary