

# NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

## Supervisor's Meeting

April 1, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, held at 233 Miller Road, was called to order by Chairman Martin Bonzo at 6:30 p.m. Present were Vice-Chairman Mike Phipps, Supervisors Fritz Retsch and Doug Martin

Absent: Steve Spade

Also, present were Manager Ronald Leindecker, Secretary Lawrie Borgman, Treasurer Nicole Liston, Police Chief Gregory Carney, Road Foreman R.J. Kraus, Township Engineer Kevin Brett, Township Solicitor Alexis Wheeler, Albert Horn, Chad Young, Bill Steel, Joel Dickson, Carolyn Dickson, Lisa Lewis, Patti Gerhard, Dan Plunkett, Amanda Peterson, Rom Pfeiffer, Ed Gentley, Steve Joy, Alex Meeder, Larry Hough, and Carl Young

- |           |  |   |
|-----------|--|---|
| <b>1</b>  | <b>PLEDGE</b>                          | The Pledge was recited.   |
| <b>2</b>  | <b>INVOCATION</b>                      | Bill Steel, retired pastor, gave the invocation.  |
| <b>3</b>  | <b>CALL TO ORDER</b>                   | Chairman Bonzo called the meeting to order and announced the presence of security cameras.  |
| <b>4</b>  | <b>AMENDMENTS</b>                      | <p>Motion by Retsch to amend the agenda to include 10C to release the \$4,000 bond to Burky's Logging &amp; Lumber, LLC for Harkins Mill Road, seconded by Phipps.</p> <p>Supervisor Martin questioned if it was a legal amendment. Solicitor Wheeler confirmed it was. Vote was taken, 4-0 in favor.</p>   |
| <b>5</b>  | <b>MINUTES<br/>REGULAR MEETING</b>     | Motion by Phipps to approve the March 4, 2025 regular meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.   |
| <b>6</b>  | <b>BILLS</b>                           | Motion by Phipps to approve the bills to be paid from the general and stormwater funds from March 4 <sup>th</sup> through April 1st, as submitted, with the signing of the checks following the meeting, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.  |
| <b>7a</b> | <b>PUBLIC COMMENT<br/>JOEL DICKSON</b> | Asked questions regarding the Freedom Road Compressor Station and drilling at Rochester Rd and Rt 989.  |
| <b>7b</b> | <b>PUBLIC COMMENT ON MS4</b>           | None.   |
| <b>8a</b> | <b>TREASURER REPORT</b>                | The Treasurer's report was submitted.   |
| <b>8b</b> | <b>APPROVE COHEN LAW<br/>PROPOSAL</b>  | <p>Motion by Martin to use the township solicitor to negotiate the renewal of the Comcast contract. Being no second, the motion failed.</p> <p>Motion by Retsch to approve the Cohen Law Proposal for franchise renewal negotiations and franchise fee audit for a total of \$11,730 to be paid out of the capital account, seconded by Phipps.</p> |

Supervisor Martin questioned how the funds could be taken from the Capital Account since the way the capital account was written, services cannot be paid for.

Chairman Bonzo stated the item would be tabled so the solicitor could review and advise. The supervisors agreed.

- 8c APPROVE LSSE MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup> PROPOSAL FOR STORMWATER PROJECTS ON DARLINGTON AND GLEN RAPE ROADS**
- Phipps moved to approve LSSE to prepare site drawings and work orders for the Darlington Road and Glen Rape Road stormwater projects for a combined total of \$92,000 as per their March 17<sup>th</sup> proposal to be paid out of the stormwater fund, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Martin voted no.
- 8d ADOPT RESOLUTION #12-25 LSA GRANT FOR MUNICIPAL ROOF**
- Chairman Bonzo explained that the resolution is for an LSA grant for the replacement of the municipal roof for \$126,000 with a \$4,000 match. The grant was approved previously, and Manager Leindecker was asked to update the resolution with a small match.
- Motion by Retsch to adopt Resolution #12-25, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Martin voted no.
- 8e APPROVE CEMETERY MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**
- Motion by Martin to approve the Cemetery Maintenance Agreement with Jim's Lawn Services & Landscaping, as the low bidder to be paid out of the operating budget, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- 8f APPROVE INTERNET AGREEMENT WITH NEW SEWICKLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**
- The township has multiple cameras at the intersection, and the internet service is provided by the church. The agreement is for the township to pay the church \$50.00 per month for the use of the service. Supervisor Martin asked what would happen if the cameras limited the service to the church. Manager Leindecker stated they have been using the church's internet service for a while without any problems.
- Motion by Retsch to approve the internet agreement with the New Sewickley Presbyterian Church to be paid out of the operating budget, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Martin voted no.
- 9a POLICE MONTHLY REPORT**
- The monthly report was submitted.
- 9b POLICE APPROVE CONDITIONAL OFFER OF EMPLOYMENT**
- Chief Carney stated they had six applicants and are awaiting the written score results. They will pick the best candidate based on those results.
- Motion by Phipps to approve a conditional offer of employment to hire one full-time officer, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- 9c NEW SEWICKLEY FIRE DISTRICT**
- The monthly report was submitted. Steve Joy requested a workshop with the Board of Supervisors. The workshop will be held on May 13<sup>th</sup>.
- 10a ROAD DEPARTMENT**
- The monthly report was submitted.

- 10b APPROVAL TO AWARD THE LIQUID ASPHALTS & RENTAL EQUIPMENT** Solicitor Wheeler explained there was an error on the township's behalf on the specification package, and her recommendation is to reject all bids and readvertise and rebid the project.
- Motion by Martin to reject all bids submitted and readvertise, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- 10c APPROVE BOND RELEASE TO BURKY'S LOGGING & LUMBER LLC** Road Foreman Kraus confirmed the road was not damaged, and the bond could be released. Motion by Retsch to release the \$4,000 bond to Burky's Logging & Lumber, LLC for Harkins Mill Road, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- 11a ENGINEER MONTHLY REPORT** The monthly report was submitted.
- 11b ADOPT RESOLUTION #13-25 AND FUNDING COMMITMENT LETTER FOR A SMALL WATER AND SEWER GRANT** Chairman Bonzo explained that the grant is for a sewage system for the municipal complex. The current system is failing. Kevin Brett, LSSE explained that if the township is awarded the grant, the funds the township would be responsible for can be taken from the stormwater fund.
- Motion by Retsch to adopt Resolution #13-25 to apply for a Small Water and Sewer Grant for \$500,000 and approve the manager to sign the funding commitment letter for \$88,250 to be paid from the stormwater fund, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Martin voted no.
- 11c APPROVE LSSE TO APPLY FOR A CFA WATERSHED RESTORATION GRANT** Kevin Brett explained this is for a CFA Watershed Restoration Grant for the stormwater project on Glen Rape Road with a 15% match. The grant would be awarded in 2026, and the project would not have to be completed until 2029.
- Motion by Retsch to approve LSSE to apply for a CFA Watershed Restoration grant for the stormwater project on Glen Rape Road with a 15 % match to be paid from the stormwater fund, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Martin voted no.
- 12 SOLICITOR** The monthly report was submitted.
- 13a PLANNING** Albert Horn stated that the Planning Commission is holding a workshop on April 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss various ordinance updates.
- 13b PLANNING APPROVE CHAD YOUNG LOT LINE REVISION** Chairman Bonzo stated the Chad Young Lot Line Revision was recommended for approval by the Planning Commission with the conditions of approval from the Beaver County Planning Commission, the septic tank to be shown on lot 2, and the house to be added to Parcel #69-144-0150.
- Motion by Martin to approve the Chad Young Lot Line Revision with the conditions stated, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

- |            |   |   |
|------------|---|---|
| <b>13c</b> | <b>MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY</b>                          | Larry Hough stated that the contractor is finishing the remaining waterline. They are actively applying for grants to continue extending water in the township.                   |
| <b>13d</b> | <b>RECREATION BOARD</b>                             | Report was submitted.   |
| <b>13e</b> | <b>CODE/BUILDING/SEO/ZONING<br/>MONTHLY REPORTS</b> | Reports were submitted.   |
| <b>13f</b> | <b>ZONING HEARING<br/>657 FEZELL ROAD</b>           | The hearing for 657 Fezell Road, held on March 26 <sup>th</sup> was extended to allow the board a site visit of the property. A decision will be made on April 23 <sup>rd</sup> . |
| <b>14</b>  | <b>BOARD COMMENTS</b>                               | Supervisor Retsch said it was nice to see so many new people attending the meeting.   |
| <b>15</b>  | <b>ADJOURNMENT</b>                                  | Motion by Retsch to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.   |

Respectfully,

Lawrie J. Borgman  
Secretary