

Chairman Brian Merdian on Wednesday, December 20, 2017 at 7:00pm in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building called the Regular Meeting of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors to order as advertised in the Tribune Review on Tuesday, December 27, 2016. The members of the Board of Supervisors present were Brian Merdian, Joseph Kerber, and Alan Fossi. Also attending the meeting were John Seanor, Marianne Errett, Jack McWilliams, Ann McWilliams, Linda Harvey, Sandy Dull, Tracy Hampshire, Patty Vanyo, Mark Petros, Tom Lord, Joe Marinic, Attorney Kansler, Janet Schork, Debi Pils and Erika Horvat.

Mr. Merdian led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**An Executive Session was held tonight, December 20, 2017 at 6:00pm to discuss ongoing legal matters.**

**Report from Roadmaster, Joe Kerber**

For the last two days the Road Crew has been out salting roads. We used approximately 150 ton of anti-skid and approximately 300 ton of salt. We put up the Christmas lights in Herminie. We spent a day removing trees after the major storm we had. A stop sign and three road signs needed replaced. Paving is complete on McGrogan and Sabrina Road. Base repairs have been completed on Hildenbrand Road by Sunoco.

**Report from Ordinance Officer, Nick Newcaster**

All of the following information has taken place since the last Board of Supervisors Meeting on 11/15/17: Seven (7) warning letters were mailed, which pertained to JMV's (Junk Motor Vehicles), rubbish, and dangerous structures. A garbage complaint was received today and I am waiting on Waste Management to contact me. I have also spoken with several people on the telephone and in person, reference to violations, which resulted in compliance, without having to mail letters. Two hearings are scheduled for 01/09/18, at MDJ CHRISTNER's office, in reference to filed complaints. Both are for JMV's. There are currently three tagged JMV's on Township roadways. (Rillton -2 and Herminie - 1) Thirteen (13) JMV's have been removed or remedied from the following areas: Herminie – 5, Hutchinson – 7, and Rillton – 1. On 12/11/17, the Westmoreland County Land Bank purchased the former CAGNATI property at 208 Sewickley Avenue, Herminie. The Zoning Officer and I inspected the property and the Township Road Crew secured the building. It is now for sale. With cold weather here, please be aware if you are parking on a Township maintained road/street/alley, it needs to be passable for snow plows. There were two parking complaints received during last Thursday's snowfall. As always, if someone has noticed a violation and would like to make a complaint, my extension is 7, which does have voicemail. Thank you and Merry Christmas.

**Report from Recreation Director, Janet Schork**

**Recreation Center:**

- Everything running smoothly at the recreation center with most of the open time slots filled.
- Our Jump Start Volleyball program ended last Thursday with 13 participants. Our Little Hoops Basketball program started on Saturday, December 9. We have 40 children registered.
- Discount Ski Tickets for 7 Springs and Hidden Valley Ski
  - We are once again partnering with Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society, Inc. to offer discounted lift tickets for 7-Springs and Hidden Valley ski resorts.
  - Once I receive the tickets, they will be available for purchase at the recreation center.
  - I will be sending ticket information to Yough for distribution to all of the district's students.

**Crabapple Lake Park & Pool:**

- Yvonne and I have started updating all of the pool forms for the 2018 season. We will have those completed by the end of January.
- Also at the beginning of the year, we will be meeting to go over all of the previous season's issues and discuss additional programming for the upcoming summer season.

**Farewell to Alan:**

- I want to thank you, Alan, for all your help and guidance over the years. Your advice was invaluable as we worked to improve Sewickley Township Park, Pool, and Recreation. Thank you!

Mr. Fossi asked if the Little Hoops Basketball Program is a joint program with North Huntingdon. Mrs. Schork stated it is. Mr. Fossi asked what the breakdown is between Sewickley and North Huntingdon. Mrs. Schork stated 17 Yough and the rest North Huntingdon.

**Public Comment**

John Seanor asked what the plan is for getting more street lights. Mr. Merdian stated that we will have the residents apply if they would like a street light in their area. We would then need to come up with a random way of choosing who gets a street light. Based on what we can afford, the place of the street light would be randomly chosen, there wouldn't be any preference on who would get a street light. We would have to look at feasibility on where we can put these lights. Mr. Seanor stated so, us people out in the sticks are going to get screwed. Mr. Merdian stated he never used those words at all.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the minutes of the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors Regular Meetings held on October 18, 2017 and November 15, 2017. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Lowber Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

S & T Bank – mortgage payment	\$ 602.25
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Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

WCCC – training	\$ 150.00
Webb's Service Center – Inspection	\$ 50.00
Webb's Service Center – maintenance on F550	\$ 1,904.98
Palko Truck & Trailer – rotate tires on F550	\$ 90.10
Yough School District – Lock Box	\$ 305.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,500.08</b>

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Hutchinson Volunteer Fire Company as follows:

Kush Kustom Restoration – headlights on rescue	\$ 525.00
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Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax funds on behalf of Sewickley Township Emergency Management as follows:

Premier Safety – Safety Jackets, Vests & Hats	\$ 233.50
Comcast – monthly phone, internet, cable	<u>\$ 173.27</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 406.77</b>

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse 2016 EMS Tax Funds on behalf of Herminie Volunteer Fire Company in the amount of \$1,900.00 to purchase 84 fire hydrant markers and to have the Township Public Works Department install them. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the Sewickley Township-Turik Plan located on Highland Avenue between the Sewickley Township Recreation Center and the Herminie Post Office. The Planning Commission gave contingent approval at their September 13, 2016 meeting on the following three items being met: The plan needed to go before the Zoning Hearing Board, Sewage Modules needed to be considered and the plans need to be signed by all appropriate parties. These contingencies have now all been met and finalized. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to contingently approve The Commerce Crossing Industrial Park Site Plan. This site development plan is for an Industrial Park located on Waltz Mill Road across from the Westinghouse Plant that contains seven lots for construction that vary from approximately 12 acres to 45 acres in size. Planning Commission suggested the Waltz Mill Flats Road should be improved through the entire property, not just to the 90 degree curve as shown on the plan. This will be changed and updated and a new set of plans will be presented. The final approval is contingent on the same as above. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the Pike Street Plans owned by Sewickley Township. This plan divides Lot 1 containing 2.84 acres from Lot 2 that has 4.27 acres. The property which is long and narrow is a former railroad right of way that is located on both sides of Pike Street. It contains portions of Railroad Street and Sewickley Creek and also numerous utility easements. Preliminary approval was granted by the Planning Commission based upon the completion of a sewage module. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the Wheaton Family Plan located on Skyview Drive. This plan divides Lot 1 containing 4 acres with a pool and pavilion from lot 2 with 1.02 acres having an existing garage. Public sewer is available for both lots pending the approved sewage modules. Water is provided by private wells. The Planning Commission requested the Right of Way access for all properties be shown on the plan. Preliminary approval was granted by the Planning Commission contingent on the sewage modules and right of way designation being added to the plan. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Township Solicitor to update and amend the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to adopt Ordinance No. 6-2017 establishing the General Fund Budget for the Township of Sewickley for the fiscal year 2018. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Township Solicitor to represent Sewickley Township in negotiations, which will include the Borough of Sutersville and the Sutersville Sewickley Municipal Sewage Authority regarding the sale of the Sutersville Sewickley Municipal Sewage Authority to the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Township Solicitor to represent Sewickley Township in negotiations, which will include the Municipal Sewage Authority of the Township of Sewickley, regarding the sale of the Municipal Sewage Authority of the Township of Sewickley to the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize the Township Solicitor to prepare an Ordinance to dissolve the Sewickley Township Recreation Board. This Board will no longer be filled by the Township. The Township will still keep a Recreation Director and Assistant Recreation Director to handle all of the day-to-day aspects of recreation within the Township. Volunteers will be selected to assist the Recreation Director with activities and events that are scheduled during the year. These volunteers will report to the Recreation Director while the Recreation Director will then report to the Board of Supervisors. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to authorize Gibson-Thomas Engineering to perform design and permitting work in regards to new speed limit flashing signs to be installed in front of H.W. Good Elementary and Yough High School. This work will include coordination with Penn Dot for an updated permit and coordination with the Township for all preparation associated with mapping, determining property mosaic and legal right-of-ways, at least one site meeting with Penn DOT, utility one call and plotting, preparation of plans, and tabulation with all work done under municipal rates at a cost not to exceed \$2,800.00. Mr. Merdian stated that there have been some residents coming to the meetings with the concern that there are no safety lights in front of the school. There is some due diligence that still needs to occur. What I proposed to the school district was that the township would cover the costs above and the township road crew would install the lights. What we asked of the school district was to pay for the signs themselves, about \$ 17,000. That offer was rejected by the school board. We are going to go ahead and try to get this completed though. We are very disappointed with the district with not being able to come to the table and work with us. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve a contract with Hoffman's Boarding Kennels through December 31, 2018 at the rate \$165.00 per month for twelve (12) months paid by the Township. Overtime calls will be charged at the rate of \$80.00 per call. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to advertise the Reorganization Meeting for the Board of Supervisors to be held on Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 7:00pm located at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to establish the regular monthly meeting location for the Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors at the Sewickley Township Municipal Building, 2288 Mars Hill Road, Irwin PA 15642. The dates on which the Board of Supervisors shall meet will be the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm and to advertise the same in the Tribune Review in accordance with the Sunshine Law. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to ratify the hiring of Dennis Markle as a Road Crew Equipment Operator at the rate of \$18.92 per hour for a 90-day probationary term. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve Mark Petros to attend the PSATS New Supervisor Boot Camp on December 11<sup>th</sup>, January 27<sup>th</sup> and February 3, 2017. The cost of the training is \$149.00. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to disburse the remaining balance of the Crabapple Lake Fundraiser Account in the amount of \$1,151.47 to Boy Scout Troop 259. Mr. Merdian thanked Mr. Fossi for the donations from his River Plunge activities throughout the years. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the following bills for payment.

General Fund:	Checks 9078 to 9099 - \$ 29,945.52 (11/16/17)
	Check 9100 - \$ 139.90 (11/20/17)
	Checks 9101 to 9108 - \$ 7,679.75 (11/22/17)
	Checks 9109 to 9124 - \$ 3,909.01 (12/1/17)
	Checks 9125 to 9138 - \$ 11,147.20 (12/7/17)
	Checks 9139 to 9165 - \$ 10,729.72 (12/14/17)
	ACH Payments: First Energy - \$ 498.27 (11/28/17)
	Columbia Gas - \$ 108.24 (12/4/17)
	S&T Loan - \$ 5,252.37 (12/15/17)
Crabapple:	Checks 4518 to 4519 - \$ 295.34 (11/16/17)
	Check 4520 - \$ 80.42 (12/1/17)
	Check 4422 - \$ 36.05 (12/14/17)
	ACH Payments: MSATS - \$ 58.95 (11/20/17)
	First Energy - \$ 88.68 (11/28/17)
	First Energy - \$ 225.35 (12/11/17)
Recreation:	Check 2736 - \$ 147.99 (12/1/17)
	Checks 2733 to 2735 - \$ 272.30 (11/21/17)
	ACH Payments: MAWC - \$ 110.93 (11/16/17)
	MSATS - \$ 58.95 (11/20/17)
	First Energy - \$ 391.81 (11/28/17)
	Columbia Gas - \$ 223.67 (12/4/17)
Highway Aid:	Check 471 - \$ 17,473.32 (11/22/17)
	Check 472 - \$ 40,375.08 (12/4/17)
	Check 473 - \$ 16,970.58 (12/8/17)
Payroll Invoices:	Check 5260 - \$ 32.40 (11/16/17)
	Check 5268 - \$ 32.40 (11/30/17)
	Check 5277 - \$ 21.61 (12/12/17)
	Checks 5271 to 5273 - \$ 447.53 (12/6/17)
	ACH Payments: Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,744.20 (11/17/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 587.99 (11/20/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,818.64 (11/24/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,567.98 (12/1/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 661.52 (12/5/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 4,717.82 (12/8/17)
	Payroll Liabilities \$ 2,903.84 (12/15/17)

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Joe Kerber made a motion, seconded by Alan Fossi to approve the following payrolls for payment.

Employees Payroll:

(twp) 11/24/17 - \$ 11,655.27  
(twp) 12/1/17 - \$ 10,672.88  
(twp) 12/8/17 - \$ 17,168.91  
(twp) 12/15/17 - \$ 12,163.22  
(twp) 12/22/17 - \$ 10,854.06

Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously.

**New / Old Business**

Mr. Merdian thanked Mr. Fossi for his years of service on the board and wished him well. Mr. Fossi stated as I look around the room there are only three of us who know what it's like to be a Supervisor. I wish you guys a lot of luck. We all three know that this can sometimes be a challenging job. I go out with all good thoughts and I appreciate everyone's support and help.

**We would like to wish everyone a Happy, Healthy Holiday Season!**

With no further business to come before the Board, Joe Kerber made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alan Fossi. Voting: Mr. Fossi, Mr. Merdian, Mr. Kerber; yes. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

Erika Horvat  
Secretary-Treasurer