

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2012

President Robert Hague called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:38 p.m. Members in attendance were Susan Aleshire, Bill Cornman, Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Stan Ference, Carole Ford, Robert Glenn and James Morrill. Others in attendance were Kirsten Stripay and Jennifer Markus of Village Green, Sean Hamill, Angela Melani, Sean Collins, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Kirsten Stripay and Jennifer Markus of Village Green Partners addressed Council providing an update on business activities within the Borough. The Soup Crawl raised \$3,073.64 and two grocery carts of groceries for the Sewickley Food Bank. Lamar Advertising has donated space on the electronic billboard, on Route 65 in Haysville, for the Sewickley Unleashed event on May 19, 2012. The pet parade will be larger this year and music will be broadcast live in the Green Street Parking Lot.

The next Grand Opening is for First National Bank on April 19, 2012 with nine other new businesses opening over the next two months. The Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce has approached Village Green for organizational and administrative services.

On motion of Mr. Ference, seconded by Mrs. Ford, Council voted, 9-0, to grant Dang Wilson use of the Chadwick Street tennis courts for teaching of sportsmanship and fundamentals for elementary and middle school student in the Quaker Valley area.

Council reviewed a request from Fern Hollow Nature Center to use Riverfront Park and War Memorial Park for an Amazing Race event. The use is contingent on receipt of a Certificate of Insurance.

Council reviewed a request from Mary Lyn McGinn for an update on signage for Smith Alley. Borough Manager advised that a meeting is scheduled with Quaker Valley School District in early May regarding the construction project and its effect on Smith Alley. In addition, Trans Associates is preparing a letter on traffic concerns for Smith Alley.

Mrs. Aleshire requested the floor to address concerns regarding the trees on Nevin Avenue. She stated that she was going to recommend that the road project bids be rejected and the project be rebid with the original scope of work for Nevin Avenue which is from approximately 844 Nevin Avenue to the Hopkins Street intersection. Mrs. Aleshire felt this would provide property owners additional time to complete sidewalk work, allow further review of the tree issue and with the road bid being higher than anticipated, keep the project within budget.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (continued)

Sean Hamill of Nevin Avenue stated that he has contacted other arborists and maybe the additional time will provide some alternatives.

Angela Melani of 710 Nevin Avenue stated that she hoped the power lines were safe and asked Mr. Driscoll to read a letter given to him by 9 year old Will Campbell of Cochran Street.

Todd of Hopkins Street asked about the qualifications of the Tree Commission and if they had a plan for trees. Bill Cornman advised that Tree Commission is 5 member commission comprised of all Sewickley residents and has several experienced members. Jim Edson is a certified arborist, Thad Jones is the Sewickley Heights park ranger and several members have ten years' experience. The Tree Commission meets monthly and annually prepares a plan for the planting of trees, treatment of trees and the removal of trees.

Sean Collins of 808 Nevin Avenue asked if the trees in the area where the road work will take place can be tested further to determine if they are healthy enough.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe advised that the Spring Gallery Walk is April 27 and April 28.

Mayor Jeffe also advised the Quaker Valley K-9 Committee recently held the Paddle Tournament and Tripp, the K-9 officer, was in attendance.

Council President Hague announced that an Executive Session was held at the beginning of the meeting regarding litigation matters and a personnel issue.

Council President also reminded Council of the following dates:

QVCOG Recycling Day – May 5, 2012

May Mart – May 12, 2012

Sewickley Unleashed – May 19, 2012

Council President Hague announced that with the Allegheny County Council redistricting plan, Jan Rea is our new Allegheny County Councilperson.

Stan Ference asked if a top coat of asphalt can be placed on the street opening at the middle school project, and requested the Police Department be more diligent in street sweeping enforcement on Harbaugh Street.

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**REPORT ON BUILDING INSPECTION. ZONING. PUBLIC WORKS AND
WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT**

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that eight (8) permits were issued in March, with permit fees of \$2,144.00 on \$2,026,250.00 worth of construction. Nineteen (19) building inspections were performed.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for March, indicating that 16.711 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, the digester gas panel is up and running and the plant is making adjustments to get the dyster operating correctly.

The Borough Manager reviewed a grease incident in which a 7 foot long, 12 inch in diameter grease clog had to be removed from the sanitary sewer system. The grease was generated by one of the food producing businesses in the Borough. Borough Manager advised that a letter will be sent to food producing businesses requesting compliance with the Allegheny County Health Department regulations.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report highlighting preparation of park areas, removal of stumps, patching of streets and spring leaf pick up.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineer's Report. Borough Manager advised that rebids will be opened on April 16th for the Glen Osborne Interconnect Project. Mr. John Mowry of KLH Engineers will present for the April 16th Council Meeting.

The Building Inspector's Report, Public Works Report, Wastewater Treatment Plant Report, and Consulting Engineer's Report were received and filed.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Report for March, highlighting the easements for the Glen Osborne Sewer Interconnect Project, truck weight limit ordinance, defamatory emails, letter to Auditors, self-liquidating debt and 202 Beaver Street.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$7,690.50.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed the Jordan Tax Service Delinquent Tax report for February 2012.

Solicitor Tucker advised that oral arguments on the MCM Ventures case will be heard before the Commonwealth Court on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. Each side will have approximately 10 minutes for their case.

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT (continued)

Solicitor Tucker reviewed the Barkeyville Borough v. Stearns opinion which reaffirmed that emails between Council members on personal computers that discuss Borough business are public records that must be provided under a right-to-know request.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed Ordinance No. 1305, a pending ordinance, which amends Chapter 21, Sections 404 and 803 removing conditional use in R-1 and R-1A zoning districts for places of worship, places of assembly and public parks. The Ordinance is scheduled for adoption on Monday, April 16.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed Ordinance No. 1306 which allows for eminent domain proceedings for a property in the Borough of Haysville for a sewer easement. The property owners are deceased and there is no estate. The Ordinance is scheduled for adoption on Monday, April 16.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed letter provided for the annual audit.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

Council reviewed letter and bid results from Bob Firek of Lennon, Smith and Souleret Engineering. The bids were opened on March 30, 2012. Fourteen contractors procured bid specifications, with only three contractors submitting bids. The project was bid with Nevin Avenue as the Base Bid, Alternate 1 was doing Beaver Street during regular hours, and Alternate No. 2 was doing Beaver Street during weekends, with occasional night work. Alternate No. 3 consists of the resident sidewalk repairs for which eighty percent (80%) of that cost is to be received by the Borough this year. The remaining twenty percent (20%) will be paid to the Borough through a payment plan from those residents with larger sidewalk bills who have agreed to have the Borough's contractor perform the sidewalk repairs. All totaled, the base bid is \$675,000. In addition, the bid for Beaver Street from Blackburn Road to Straight Street was \$183,000 and with the addition of the Nevin Avenue tree removals and replacements would bring the total project cost to \$915,012.

On motion of Mrs. Aleshire, seconded by Mr. DeFazio, Council voted, 9-0, to reject all bids for the Contract No. 12-R01, 2012 Roadway and Storm Sewer Improvements, including low bid of Allison Contractors, Inc. and to rebid the 2012 Road Project to include the original Nevin Avenue scope which is from approximately 844 Nevin Avenue to the Hopkins Street intersection and Beaver Street, from Blackburn Road to Straight Street.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)

The Borough Manager reviewed 2011 Audit Report. Several typos were found and additional information was needed. Council was in agreement, to have the corrected pages available for the Monday meeting in order that the audit can be received and filed.

The Borough Manager advised that the first payment of fire services fees has been received from Edgeworth Borough.

Council reviewed a letter from FEMA indicating that Sewickley is compliant with the adoption of the Hazard Mitigation Plan for federal emergency funds.

Council reviewed Simplex Grinnell annual fire report inspection for the municipal building.

Council reviewed real estate tax millage rates for all municipalities and school districts in Allegheny County.

The Borough Manager provided report on the Public Employer Labor Relations Advisory Services Conference which provided updates on current employment cases in Pennsylvania, reviewed best practices, and suggested new procedures for personnel files.

Council reviewed a project sheet, updating the easements for the Glen Osborne Interconnect Project. Borough Manager also advised that the bid opening (rebid) is scheduled for April 16th and John Mowry of KLH Engineering will be in attendance.

The Borough Manager reviewed the funding requirements for the completion of the Glen Osborne Interconnect Project in an amount of \$3.3 million and \$553,000 for the Boundary Street Pump Station. The recommendation is utilize bank notes, one for each project. Council was in agreement to pursue the bank financing for the projects. Proposal recommendations will be presented at the May 15 Committee of the Whole meeting.

The Borough Manager announced that the Pennsylvania Borough's Association and the *Borough News* magazine have awarded the Borough of Sewickley second place in the 2012 News and Municipal Website Contest.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT *(continued)*

Council reviewed the Conditional Use Request for 352 Beaver Street. It is a proposed first floor retail space and a second floor apartment. The Planning Commission did recommend approval at the Wednesday, April 4th Planning Commission meeting. Public Hearing will be on the agenda before Council for April 16th.

The Borough Manager's report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Ference, seconded by Mr. DeFazio, the Council Meeting was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf