

**BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012**

President Robert Hague called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Susan Aleshire, Bill Cornman, Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Carole Ford, Stan Ference, Robert Glenn and James Morrill. Others in attendance were Kirsten Stripay and Jennifer Markus of Village Green, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

Mayor Brian Jeffe administered the Oath of Office to Councilperson Carole Ford.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Council reviewed a letter from Blake Irwin, a sophomore from Quaker Valley High School. Mr. Irwin was inquiring about artistic spray painting in areas of Sewickley. He indicated that he has been in contact with Sweetwater Center for the Arts and that there are other artists in the area also interested in this endeavor. Borough Manager indicated that he would develop a policy for Council's review in order that a resolution may be adopted, establishing a uniform approach to spray painting art.

Kirsten Stripay and Jennifer Markus of Village Green addressed Council, providing an update on Village Green activities. They indicated that the feedback on *Yuletide in the Village* has been very positive. The amount of dollars raised covered all of the outside costs and Village Green will be working with the Borough of Sewickley in order to cover all of the Borough's costs associated with Yuletide in the Village.

Ms. Stripay indicated that Sewickley was going to be the showcase city for the Pantone Color of the Year selection, Tangerine Tango, but Pantone decided not to provide any financial backing or products to Village Green for the endeavor.

Village Green indicated that they will be utilizing their efforts on fundraising for *Sewickley Unleashed* and requested the permission of Council to utilize the streets for the Pet Parade and to utilize the Green Street Parking Lot on Saturday, May 19, 2012 for *Sewickley Unleashed*. It was believed that with May Mart taking place the week before *Sewickley Unleashed*, it would not be fair to close the same section of Broad Street two weekends in a row.

Ninety-six (96) *Explore Sewickley* Banners have been installed throughout the Borough of Sewickley.

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**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR**

Mayor Jeffe reported that the interviews for the police candidates will be held on Tuesday, January 17, 2012.

Mayor Jeffe stated he has met with the Quaker Valley K-9 Committee and they are committed to an additional 3-year funding for the K-9 services.

Mayor Jeffe also commented that the Borough Manager, Village Green and he will be meeting to have discussions with some Members of the Chamber of Commerce about signage for Route 65 and Broad Street.

Mrs. Ford thanked the staff for a very fine Appreciation Dinner.

Mr. Morrill indicated that he will be on vacation for the Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

Council President Hague announced that there will be an Executive Session at 6:45 p.m., before the Regular Council Meeting on Monday, January 16, 2012, for the Solicitor's Evaluation and discussion regarding land matters.

President Hague also announced that the Council Retreat is scheduled for Monday, January 30, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., at the Edgeworth Club. Mr. Glenn indicated that he would not be able to attend.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that two (2) permits were issued in December, with permit fees of \$3,500.00 on \$330,000 worth of construction. Nineteen (19) building inspections were performed. It was also noted that of the \$30 million in new construction, \$8 million+ was on taxable property.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for December, highlighting the preparation of *Yuletide in the Village*, the placement of *Explore Sewickley* banners and the completion of leaf pick up.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for December, indicating that 17.466 million gallons of sewage were treated, and 0 cubic feet of digester gas was used. The digester control panel is up and running and sludge is being activated in the dyster, which will produce gas by the end of January.

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

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineer's Report, indicating that the Glen Osborne Interconnect Project can be bid within two weeks, after all the necessary easements have been secured.

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 December, highlighting the easements for the Glen Osborne Sewer Interconnect Project, the spot zoning challenge, reassessment issues, and pension plans.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice for the month of December in the amount of \$6,184.92.

Council reviewed tax assessment appeals.

Council reviewed a report on the City of Pittsburgh reassessments, indicating that the residential values went up approximately 46%, and the commercial properties went up 71%. Solicitor Tucker advised that Judge Wettick will be making a decision on Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. It is anticipated that he will allow the 2011 valuations to stand until the appeals can be processed for the new 2012 assessed values.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Tax and Municipal Claims Report for the month in the amount of \$4,714.07.

Solicitor Tucker indicated that his law firm, Tucker Arensburg, is raising billing rates by \$10.00 an hour. The Solicitor indicated that there should be no adverse affect on the budget.

The Sheriff's Sale for 308 Farren Street has been removed for satisfaction of payment.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

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**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

Council reviewed the 2011 final Municipal Lien Report, which indicated that 147 liens were processed by the Borough of Sewickley in 2011. While this number is higher than in previous years, it is due to 25 liens associated with the Beaver Hall property development.

Council reviewed a letter from Glen Osborne Borough's engineer, finalizing the numbers associated with the road repairs of Beaver Road in conjunction with the building of the Pump Station in the Borough of Glen Osborne. The Borough of Sewickley's percentage of costs will be 24.02%. In addition, Borough Manager advised that a letter will be forwarded to Glen Osborne Borough and Aleppo Township by the end of January, indicating the necessary rates for sewage effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.

Council reviewed a notice from Glen Osborne Borough indicating their intention of adopting their Zoning Ordinance.

In addition, a copy of the notice from Aleppo Township was also reviewed, indicating their intention of adopting their Zoning Ordinance. All three municipalities were part of the Joint Municipal Comprehensive Plan.

Borough Manager advised that sidewalks and curbs have been marked, preparing for the 2012 Road Project. This is to ascertain the number of square yards of concrete and brick work that will be needed. The Borough will be issuing letters to the affected residents indicating the amount needed for repairs and explaining that their repairs must be completed by May 1st. The resident or property owner will have the opportunity to have the contractor perform the work, but will be responsible to pay the Borough upon the completion of the project. A utility meeting for the project is scheduled for Wednesday, January 25, at 10:00 a.m.

Council reviewed a Rezoning and Subdivision Request on the Crock Plan of Lots. The Borough of Sewickley Planning Commission held a hearing on January 4, 2012, and recommended approval to Sewickley Borough Council. Council reviewed the advertised ordinance, establishing the rezoning, and reviewed the subdivision plat.

In addition, the Borough Manager presented a request for a Public Hearing for a unification plan for Los Payasos at 541-545 Beaver Street. The Public Hearing before Council will be scheduled for Monday, February 20, 2012. Council was in agreement to place the matter on the agenda.

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**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)**

Council reviewed the Statement of Investment Policy for the pension funds and requested a change being added on Page 4, under IX. Review Process, the inclusion of a sentence indicating: "At a minimum, the Investment Manager will be reevaluated every three years." Council was agreement to place a resolution for adoption of the policy, with the changes, on the Council Meeting Agenda for Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Council reviewed a request from Cochran Hose Company, pursuant to the adoption of the 10-year agreement with the Borough of Edgeworth to provide fire services, the purchase of two Edgeworth Borough trucks. The trucks are a 1997 squad utility vehicle and a 2005 engine with 4,569 miles and 675 hours of operation. The fair market value for the two vehicles, by an independent appraiser, was \$227,500. Edgeworth Borough would like to trade their trucks in exchange for fire protection fees in the amount of \$200,000. The Borough is proposing to Council a \$40,000 credit each year, over the next five years. This way the Borough of Sewickley will receive its \$9,000 a year from Edgeworth for the Capital Reserve 4 Fund, and \$10,000 per year for the rendering of services. It is estimated that this would save the Borough \$400,000 over the next several years in replacing Engine No. 2. In addition, the Borough would sell the current Engine No. 2, the 1991 Pierce, with a probable price tag of over \$60,000. These funds would be deposited into the Fire Fund, Capital Reserve 4 Account. It is estimated that approximately \$7,000 will be necessary to cover the cost of relabeling the equipment and adding the two new trucks to the Borough's insurance policy. Council was in agreement to adopt an ordinance, amending the agreement in order that the vehicles can be purchased.

No Members of Council indicated a request for business cards. Council reviewed the seating chart for Council Meetings.

The tour of the Fire Department, as part of the orientation program, originally scheduled for Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, is being cancelled and will be rescheduled. In addition, the Borough office is working with newly elected Councilperson Mr. Morrill regarding tours of Borough departments. Once the timeframes have been established, it will be communicated to all of the Members of Council should they wish to participate.

In addition, Borough Manager advised that the agenda for the Council Retreat Meeting will be provided at the January 16<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting. Borough Manager also advised that the Rules of Procedure will be given to all Members of Council. Several Members of Council asked that the Rules of Procedure be e-mailed to them.

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**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (continued)**

Borough Manager reviewed a Tax Anticipation Note with the Borough of Sewickley Water Authority in the amount of \$500,000, at 2.25%, with a payback date of April 30, 2012. Council was in agreement to place the adoption of a resolution on the agenda for the Council Meeting on January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Borough Manager reviewed a memo to Department Heads regarding fiscal restraint and savings objectives in the first six months of the year as we weather the reassessment storm.

In addition, Council was in agreement that a picture of Council will be taken on February 20, 2012, at 7:20 p.m., before the Council Meeting. All Council Members were asked to dress accordingly.

The Borough Manager's report was received and filed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Ference, seconded by Mrs. Ford, the Council Meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery  
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf