

**BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013**

President Bob 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 and Jamie Morrill. Robert Glenn was absent due to vacation. Others in attendance were Cora DeLoia and Doug Florey of the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce, Jennifer Markus, Kirsten Recker and Alex DeLoia of Village Green Partners, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Alex DeLoia and Jennifer Markus of Village Green Partners addressed Council, providing an update on activities within the Business District. Thirty people attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Village Green Partners Happy Hour, held on Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, at the Sewickley Center for Performing Arts. Senator Matt Smith was introduced to the Sewickley Business Community. Senator Smith expressed his support for Village Green Partners and the Business District activities.

Village Green Partners announced that their website has been redesigned and updated to provide valuable information and to answer questions. In addition, Village Green Partners indicated that they will be working with the new Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce recently completed its strategic planning process that resulted in new bylaws and restructured membership platform. Beginning May 1, 2013, all businesses within the Sewickley Valley will be considered as Chamber Members and there will be no annual dues. Instead of dues, Members will pay a small fee to participate in Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce activities. The Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce will focus on conducting professional development events and will collaborate with Village Green Partners throughout the year.

Doug Florey, of the Laughlin Center, and Cora DeLoia, of Spoiled Chics, addressed Council to indicate that they are very excited about new opportunities, and that the engaging of all local businesses will create and promote an atmosphere in which merchants can feel re-energized. Cora DeLoia stated that this new format will allow the Chamber of Commerce to focus on professional development. In addition, a preliminary professional development speaker series was reviewed. Council was very receptive to the organizations working together and wished them well.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2013  
PAGE TWO**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (CONTINUED)**

On motion of Mr. Ference, seconded by Mr. DeFazio, Council voted, 8-0, to approve the sidewalk sales requests, as submitted by Village Green Partners, for Saturdays, April 27, May 4, May 11, May 18 and May 25.

Council reviewed a letter to Sweetwater Center for the Arts, indicating the June dates for the 2013 Summer Music Series which will be held at Wolcott Park.

Council reviewed a letter to the Quaker Valley Recreation Association regarding their annual 5K Run/Walk and 1.5 Walk on Saturday, June 15, 2013.

On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Morrill, Council voted, 8-0, to approve the request of the Sewickley United Methodist Church to use Thorn Street, from Broad Street to Walnut Street, for their 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Sewickley Street Carnival.

Council reviewed a letter to Dang Wilson regarding the Tennis Camp at the Chadwick Street Park.

On motion of Mr. Morrill, seconded by Mr. Ference, Council voted, 8-0, to approve the request of St. James for their annual Field Day in Park Place.

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

Mayor Jeffe reviewed the December 2012 to February 2013 K-9 Report.

In addition, Mayor Jeffe reminded Council that the Gallery Walk is on Friday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Mayor Jeffe stated that the annual May Mart will be on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., on Broad Street; and that the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Sewickley Unleashed will be held on Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, beginning with a parade at 12:00 noon.

Council President Robert Hague announced that an Executive Session would be held at the conclusion of tonight's Committee of the Whole Meeting regarding a personnel matter and a litigation matter.

President Hague also indicated that the Quaker Valley COG Recycling Day is on Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Borough of Sewickley will have a smaller version of the Recycling Day and collect items for Sewickley residents on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**  
**APRIL 9, 2013**  
**PAGE THREE**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR (CONTINUED)**

President Hague advised that the Borough of Sewickley Police Department was participating in the National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Mr. Hague indicated that strong support for this project is very important.

Mayor Jeffe reviewed the designation given to the Borough of Sewickley as a 2013 Banner Community. The Mayor was present for the presentation by Chief Executive Richard Fitzgerald and Richard Hadley, Director of the Allegheny League of Municipalities.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that seven (7) permits were issued in March, with permit fees of \$3,965.00 collected on \$317,500.00 worth of construction. Eighteen (18) building inspections were performed.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for March, highlighting snow removal, the repair of a manhole along Centennial Avenue and Grove Street, and cutting back tree branches on some streets to allow for the street sweeper.

Borough Manager also advised that the CPU units for the pay stations for metered parking were shipped to California on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Duncan Technologies requested that these units be sent out in order to correct the deficiencies in the machines. It is anticipated that Duncan Technologies will ship back the updated CPU Units to the Borough of Sewickley on or about April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for March, indicating that 21.8 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 120,184 cubic feet of digester gas was used.

Council reviewed a letter from Lone Pine Construction, providing a quotation for repairs to the sludge pump equipment. The cost, of approximately \$9,645.00, will be absorbed by KLH Engineers.

Council also reviewed the Consulting Engineer's Report, indicating that the sanitary sewer construction is anticipated to be completed by the end of May or early June. The Borough is developing a final punch list for the Boundary Street Pump Station.

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

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2013  
PAGE FOUR**

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Report for March, highlighting the spot zoning challenge, the purchase of property with air rights for Sewickley Village Theater, probationary police review, and employee family medical leave issues.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$5,227.00.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed a letter from Jordan Tax Service with respect to delinquent taxes and municipal claims. Solicitor Tucker indicated that the delinquent real estate tax collections produced \$4,734.28 for the month of January.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed numerous assessment appeals received to date. He indicated that over the last few days, there has been an influx of 19 appeals filed by the Quaker Valley School District against properties in Sewickley Borough.

Council reviewed Zoning Hearing Board Decision No. 10-04, the appeal of Mike Lyons and Clifford Krey, regarding the Ohio River Boulevard Mixed Use District in which the Zoning Hearing Board ruled in the Borough's favor.

Council reviewed a Buy-Sell Agreement regarding a portion of Block and Lot No. 421-A-139, the approximate 12,000 square foot property that is being offered to the Borough. The Borough is completing an appraisal on the property. It was noted that the proposed subdivision of that lot indicates an area of 11,638 square feet and the agreement states the property as being 12,085 square feet. Verification of exact footage will need to be completed by Two Village Square LLC.

Council reviewed the proposal for Managed Information Technology Services. The current provider did not submit their quotation to provide IT services in a timely, correct manner, and their current fee is \$2,000 per month. It is recommended that Green Seven Technologies be given the 2-year Managed Information Technology Services Contract. Their proposed monthly rate is \$1,440. On motion of Mrs. Ford, seconded by Mr. Ference, Council voted, 8-0, to award the 2-Year Managed Information Technology Services Contract, beginning May 1, 2013, to Green Seven Technologies.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2013  
PAGE FIVE**

**BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT**

The Borough Manager reviewed the Utility Meeting Minutes and a schedule for the 2013 Road Project. Bids will be open in the morning on May 20<sup>th</sup>, with a recommendation to award the bid at the May Council Meeting, which takes place during the evening of May 20<sup>th</sup>.

The Borough Manager advised that there were 25 attendees at the Columbia Gas Company Citizens Information Meeting on Wednesday, April 3, 2013. He indicated that Sarah Perry, of Columbia Gas, addressed the audience, indicating that Columbia Gas has been working with the Borough of Sewickley since 1995 on the replacement of gas lines in Sewickley. Columbia Gas has replaced 51,500 linear feet of pipe; and this year's project, which is bordered by Walnut Street, Bank Street, Ferry Street, Thorn Street, Frederick Avenue and Elwick Street, will replace over 8,000 lineal feet at a cost of \$1.6 million, including the restoration of roads and sidewalks. Columbia Gas has indicated, but not finalized, that in 2014, they will be replacing an additional 5,000 feet on Chadwick Street.

Borough Council reviewed an update on the 2013 Borough of Sewickley Real Estate Tax Assessment, indicating that approximately 264 appeals need to be heard by Allegheny County, and that the Borough is tracking the assessments, the number of appeals and the reduction of values on a monthly basis. As of April 3, 2013, the Assessed Valuation for the Borough of Sewickley has dropped to \$457,507,130, representing a \$15,205,500 reduction in values to date.

Council reviewed letters from and to Chelsa Wagner, Allegheny County Controller, regarding her website on real estate millage rates. The response letter from the Borough requested that information be placed on the website, indicating that the Borough of Sewickley received a court order with approval to exceed the 5% millage rate and that Sewickley adopted the necessary ordinance and resolution. A confirmation was received from Controller Wagner's office indicating that they will accommodate the Borough's request.

Council reviewed a Subdivision Request for Two Village Square LLC. Council concurred with the proposed Subdivision Request; however, the square footage indicated on the drawing was not the same square footage documented in the Buy-Sell Agreement. As advised, the Borough will be reviewing the drawing with the applicant, Two Village Square LLC.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES**  
**APRIL 9, 2013**  
**PAGE SIX**

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

Council reviewed the proposed Subdivision Plan for Waterworks Park. The plan will require the transfer of property to and from the Sewickley Water Authority and the Borough of Sewickley. Council was in agreement to have the Solicitor prepare the deeds and easements and to also work with the Sewickley Water Authority in developing a timetable for the completion of the transactions.

The Borough Manager advised that the Civil Service Commission met on March 26<sup>th</sup> to recommend changes to the Civil Service Commission Ordinance. The changes have been forwarded to Chief Ersher and Solicitor Tucker to review and approve and will be presented to Council at the May Committee of the Whole Meeting.

The Borough Manager reviewed a copy of a letter regarding the Road Salt Contract. The Borough Manager recommended that Council approve the Second Year Option Agreement for Road Rock Salt. The approval will be placed on the Monday, April 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Agenda.

The Borough Manager indicated that the 2012 Audit form was filed with the Department of Community Economic and Development. In addition, the Borough Manager distributed the 2012 Audit, as prepared by Mark Turnley, CPA. The recommendation is to order the audit received and filed at the April 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

Council reviewed a letter to the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry, indicating that the repairs that were requested to be performed to the elevator were completed in a timely manner.

Council reviewed a letter from Chief Ersher and Chief Neff, recommending that the river side of Elwick Street, from Little Street to Walnut Street, be established as a "No Parking" zone. The residents, through Peter Floyd, have indicated that parking on the street has increased, mostly due to St. James events, and there are ingress and egress issues for the residents. In addition, Elwick Street is not wide enough to access with fire trucks if there are vehicles on both sides. It was noted that the resolution (pursuant to the request of the residents) will indicate that while parking will be on the northern side of the street, parking will be permitted on the southern (river) side of Elwick during street cleaning hours. Council was willing to place a resolution for adoption on the April 15<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting Agenda.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2013  
PAGE SEVEN**

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

The Borough Manager indicated that the Borough of Sewickley is a member of the Pennsylvania Municipal League, and that he has served on the Pennsylvania Municipal League Legislative Committee for over seven years. Act 111 and pension reform bills are being introduced to both the House and Senate on April 15<sup>th</sup> and April 16<sup>th</sup>, and the Borough Manager would like to be in attendance. Council was in agreement to allow the Borough Manager to attend the session. The Borough Manager indicated that Mrs. Flaherty has agreed to take minutes at the Council Meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The Borough Manager advised Council that the lighted crosswalks on Broad Street were initially installed in 2006. The company that owned the technology and installed the lights was a Canadian company, qualifying under the North American Free Trade Agreement. Since the installation, the Borough has had to replace lights once at a cost of approximately \$3,000. The company has since moved from Canada to New Zealand, and the quoted price for the replacement of the lights is in excess of \$11,000. In working with Craig Bischak, the Borough Electrician, we were advised that three companies use this type of technology in the United States, but each type of technology is different and cannot be adapted to the technology currently used for our lighted crosswalks. The Borough Manager recommended not to expend \$11,000 or to evaluate the 3 other companies. It is recommended to remove and replace those crosswalks with crosswalks created with red brick imprints on the asphalt as was done on Beaver Street. Council was in agreement with that plan.

The Borough Manager's report was received and filed.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Council went into an Executive Session at 9:02 p.m. for personnel and litigation matters. The Executive Session concluded at 9:10 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Mr. Driscoll, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery  
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf