

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2013

President Bob Hague called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:42 p.m. Members in attendance were Susan Aleshire, Bill Cornman, Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Stan Ference, Robert Glenn, and Jamie Morrill. Carole Ford was absent due to vacation. The others in attendance were Jennifer Markus and Alex DeLoia of Village Green Partners, Todd Renner, Shelly Murray, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Markus and Alex DeLoia, of Village Green Partners, addressed Council, indicating that 838 tickets were sold for the Wine Walk, with 514 tickets sold online. Village Green Partners is working with the small businesses to promote Small Business Saturday on November 30th, with music by the Ambridge Jazz Band.

There will be two stages for Light Up Night. The Orr's Rocks Stage will have Christmas music, and Dancing Queen and No Bad Ju Ju will be performing on the Main Stage. The Village Theater will be showing movies in the Locust Street Parking Lot on the white wall of the Sidelines building.

Council reviewed a thank you letter from the Sewickley Cemetery Foundation regarding the Tuskegee Dedication of the Tuskegee Memorial on September 15th.

Council reviewed an e-mail from Donna Panazzi, of 227 Thorn Street, complimenting Council for the "At Your Door Service" offered by Waste Management for Sewickley residents.

Shelly Murray, of Centennial Avenue, was in attendance, speaking on behalf of the company she works for, called Forever, started by Glen Meakem. The company is responsible for data storage and digital migration. She is interested in assisting the Borough of Sewickley with the storage of records. Council indicated that they would like to obtain more information, and the Borough Manager indicated that he would meet with Mrs. Murray to review the program, as well review what must comply with the Pennsylvania Historic Review Commission Record Retention Act.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe indicated that Light Up Night is on Friday, December 6, 2013, from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and that the Santa Parade will be on Saturday, December 7, 2013, beginning at 10:30 a.m., at the Presbyterian Church on Beaver Street.

Council President Robert Hague announced that an Executive Session was held before the Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening, at 7:00 p.m., for a Personnel Review of the Borough Manager and an update on the Village Theater.

Mr. DeFazio, Chairperson of the Borough Manager Review, indicated that Borough Council had met regarding the review, and that the Borough Manager's salary is a set figure plus a performance bonus, as determined by Council. The bonus is based on attaining annual established goals. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 8-0, to approve a 10% performance bonus for the Borough Manager.

Council President Hague asked all attendees to pause and reflect and offer thanks to all Veterans.

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

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for October, indicating the removal and clean-up of the river dock areas at Walnut Street and Chadwick Street, the repair of salt spreaders for winter, the beginning of the annual fall leaf collection, and the removal of the hanging baskets.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for October, indicating that 17.907 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 119,965 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Repairs were made to the No. 1 Raw Pump and the hand rail in the Press Room.

The Borough Manager reviewed a letter from KLH Engineers, indicating that William A. Petrakis Contracting had completed the project and the 18 month maintenance bond was in effect.

Council reviewed a letter to and from the Allegheny County Health Department regarding a malodor complaint. The Borough will be meeting with the Allegheny County Health Department.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report.

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

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Report for October, highlighting the completion of the Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations, a brief filed regarding a spot zoning challenge by Mr. Lyons, negotiations between the Presbyterian Church and Olsen and Farlow, a review of the proposed 2014 tax millage, and additional tax assessment appeals received by the Borough.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$6,236.16.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed the Jordan Tax Services Delinquent Tax Report, indicating that \$24,619.95 was received.

Council reviewed correspondence regarding Bankruptcy Case No. 12-23840CFT.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed the proposed settlement in the Melissa Farlow and Randy Olsen v. Borough of Sewickley regarding the Presbyterian Church. Solicitor Tucker and the Borough Manager advertised that the proposed settlement would be on the November 18th Council Agenda in order that any interested party may review the settlement. Solicitor Tucker indicated that Council has the right to settle, and that there will not be an additional public hearing regarding a settlement, but that in fairness to all interested parties, it was decided to advertise.

On motion of Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Ference, Council voted, 8-0, to ratify the advertisement for the proposed settlement regarding Melissa Farlow and Randy Olsen v. the Borough of Sewickley Zoning Hearing Board and Borough of Sewickley, Nos. SA-37-738 and SA-13-342.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough advised that Morgan Excavating will be in the Borough of Sewickley to complete the curb-to-curb patch repair on Beaver Street beginning on Wednesday, November 13, 2013.

Council reviewed an updated Road Schedule, including the 2013 Road Projects as well as the road work recently completed by Columbia Gas. With regard to Columbia Gas, a punch list was developed by the Borough Manager and the Borough of Sewickley Road Engineers, Lennon, Smith Souleret Engineering. Additional walk-throughs are planned for the completion of the work. It is anticipated that all work will be completed by Thanksgiving.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager advised that Columbia Gas will be installing a safety regulator, on Wednesday, November 13th and Thursday, November 14th, near the intersection of Hegner Way and Beaver Street. Columbia Gas will be digging a hole to place the regulator, and will mill and pave 20 feet on each side of the hole and curb-to-curb during the week of November 18th.

The Borough Manager provided a memo on the 2014 Road Project that was mailed to all residents in the area of the Road Project.

Council reviewed a cost estimate, prepared by Lennon, Smith, Souleret, regarding standardization of all roadway issues, including curbs, sidewalks and other components. Borough Council took no further action on the standardization.

Council reviewed a letter to the Historic Review Commission regarding scheduling meetings to discuss solar energy panels, with recommendations for Council. Council Member and Historic Review Commission Member Charles Driscoll reiterated his intention to have this task completed, with recommendations returned to Council by February 28, 2014.

The Borough Manager provided an update on real estate assessments, advising Council that in the bill listing in the November 18th Council Packet, there will be 52 refunds, amounting to \$68,757.72. In addition, 15 additional assessments have been approved and will be forwarded to the Borough for payment in December. In keeping a monthly tally, there are approximately 17 original assessment appeals as well as an additional 20 appeals filed in September, October and November. Solicitor Tucker commented that an additional appeal was received in his office today. The Borough Manager indicated that there will be at least \$180,000 remaining in the escrow account, which will be applied to the real estate taxes for 2014; this is why a millage of 5.95 has been proposed.

The Borough Manager advised that with the adoption of the Borough of Sewickley Civil Service Commission Rules and Regulations, a testing date has been established to create an Eligibility List by the Civil Service Commission.

Council reviewed the most current update regarding the Dickson Road pin monitoring movements.

Council reviewed letters regarding the Act 44 disclosure forms for annual reporting. The Borough Manager advised that all parties will be forwarding their completed Act 44 disclosure forms for inclusion in the next packet for Council.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager indicated that Council tentatively adopted the 2014 Budget on October 12, 2014. The Budget has been advertised, and during the last week of October, Budget Books were distributed to Council and to all of the adjoining municipalities in which the Borough of Sewickley provides a service. In addition, the 2014 Budget is available online and in the Sewickley Public Library for review. The hearing on the 2014 Budget, which will lower the millage to 5.95 mills, is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2013.

Council reviewed a Board and Commission renewal form, indicating the individuals that have expressed interest to remain on a Borough Board or Commission. In addition, the Borough has placed an advertisement in the Sewickley Herald. All applications are due back by December 1, 2013. It should be noted that Thad Jones of the Tree Commission has advised that he is resigning from the Tree Commission because he is relocating to Nantucket. A motion to accept his resignation will be on the November 18th Council Meeting Agenda. The interviews will be conducted during the hour before the Committee of the Whole Meeting and the hour before the regular Council Meeting in December in order that Council may make the appointments, if they wish, at the December 16th Council Meeting.

The Borough Manager advised that the Quaker Valley K-9 Foundation has submitted their 2013 donation in the amount of \$5,489.27.

The Borough Manager indicated that 14 various collectors, museums and railroad enthusiasts had expressed an interest in the Borough's Riverfront Park railroad equipment, consisting of an engine, coal car and a caboose. Six proposals were received, and it was recommended that Council approve the conveyance and accept the donation from Age of Steam Roundhouse in Sugarcreek, Ohio. On motion of Mr. Ference, seconded by Mr. Cornman, Council approved the conveyance of the Riverfront Park railroad equipment to, and the acceptance of the donation from, Age of Steam Roundhouse/The Jerry & Laura Jacobson Foundation, Inc.

The Borough Manager advised that representatives from the Sewickley Academy will be present at the December 16th Council Meeting to present checks from the proceeds of the Pancake Breakfast to the Borough's Police and Fire Departments.

The Borough Manager advised that the Police Chief Review will be at the December 10th Committee of the Whole Meeting. An evaluation form was enclosed in Council's packet. The review will be handled by Mayor Brian Jeffe. The Solicitor Review is scheduled for January 14, 2014.

Council reviewed a termination letter to Robert Goedecker from the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Pursuant to their request, Council reviewed a parking plan to place 44 parking spaces in War Memorial Park which can be utilized to help meet parking requirements for future building developments in the Borough of Sewickley Business District. These spaces are on the left, entering the park. This will leave 53 spaces for other park activities. Borough Council was in favor of the proposed plan and asked for a cost estimate to complete the additional paving. The Borough Manager is to prepare a Final Plan for the December Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Council awarded the Parking Analysis Study and Financial Review to Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. The consultant on the job will be Khurshid Hoda. Mr. Hoda will be in Sewickley on Wednesday, November 20th and Thursday, November 21st. He has asked for a general information session on Thursday morning, at 9:00 a.m. He is leaving several hours open for one-on-one interviews with all interested parties. The Borough has advised the Sewickley Herald to place an article in the paper for the November 14th edition, advertising through Village Green Partners, and notifying individuals who have expressed an interest on this topic at the Council Meetings, of Mr. Hoda's visit to the Borough of Sewickley. Mr. Hoda is expected to complete the report no later than January 31, 2014.

Council reviewed the Borough Manager Review, as conducted by Mr. DeFazio.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. DeFazio, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf