

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2015

Vice President Bill Cornman called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Jamie Morrill, Jeff Neff, Carole Ford, and Todd Renner. Susan Aleshire was absent due to vacation, and Larry Rice was absent due to work. The others in attendance were Alex Lancianese and Jennifer Markus of Explore Sewickley, Fred Jezzie, Brendan Kenny, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese of Explore Sewickley provided an update on Explore Sewickley activities. They presented a check in the amount of \$5,284.61 to the Sewickley Community Center Food Pantry from this year's Soup Crawl. Over the past four years, the grand total raised by Explore Sewickley for the Community Center is \$13,663.20. They had eight volunteers for Clean Up Day on Saturday, April 25th. They reviewed the upcoming events associated with Sewickley Unleashed.

Jennifer Markus indicated that the Village Melt will open and have their Ribbon Cutting on Friday, May 15th. J McLaughlin's Ribbon Cutting is tentatively scheduled for June 4th, and the Slippery Mermaid expansion with the Tiki Bar is scheduled for June 1st.

Explore Sewickley reviewed the a request to use Hegner Way on July 18th for a World Yoga Event, and to have Merchants' Sidewalk Sales on the Saturday of Memorial Day Weekend, May 23rd, on Saturday, June 27th, and on Saturday July 18th. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mrs. Ford, Council voted, 7-0, to approve the request.

Alex Lancianese indicated that the Main Street application and request for Resolution of Support from Borough Council will be ready for the June Council Meeting.

On motion of Mr. Neff, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 7-0, to approve the request of the Sons of Italy to use Division Street on September 19th and 20th for a multi-year Quaker Valley Class Reunion.

Council reviewed a request of Brenda Fisk, 227 Beaver Street, for the relocation of an animal control bag station.

Mr. Brendan Kenny, of 44 Timber Hill Drive, Sewickley Heights, and a Board Member at Fern Hollow Nature Center, made a request before Council to find out the best way to request an annual contribution to the Fern Hollow Nature Center as it helps with preservation and conservation in the area. The Borough was receptive to working with Mr.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (CONTINUED)

Kenny and indicated that he should meet with Borough staff, and make a full presentation at the September Capital Request Budget Meeting in order that it can be included in the 2016 Budget.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Brian Jeffe offered a thank you to the Borough and to the Sewickley Garden Council for a very successful May Mart and for the new gazebo which had its Ribbon Cutting on Saturday.

Mayor Jeffe reviewed the Memorial Day Weekend Schedule including Friday, May 22nd, with the Flag Retirement Ceremony at 7:00 p.m., patriotic music at 8:00 p.m., and the Celebration of Service Fireworks at 9:00 p.m. The Mayor indicated that there would be no Memorial Service at the Coast Guard Station this year as it is under construction and civilians are not permitted at the location. He indicated that the Veterans Sunday Memorial Service will be at the Sewickley United Methodist Church at 11:00 a.m., and all are invited; and the 124th Annual Memorial Day Parade will be on Monday, May 25th, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Mayor Jeffe advised that he is flying home on Monday from a business trip and may be a little late for the meeting.

Carole Ford stated that at a Borough's Association Meeting there was quite a bit of discussion regarding boroughs' pension obligations. She also requested that Waste Management be contacted regarding cans and lids that are, basically, being tossed around and causing a lot of breaking and cracking of the garbage can lids.

Mr. Renner advised that he will be arriving at Monday's meeting around 8:00 p.m. due to attending his children's school activities.

Council Vice President Bill Cornman asked the Mayor if the police could pay more attention to Jake Brake violations, especially around midnight near the Sewickley Bridge area.

Council Vice President Bill Cornman thanked all those involved for their assistance in planting over 50 trees associated with the April 25th Spring Tree Planting.

Council Vice President Bill Cornman indicated that the 6th Annual Sewickley Unleashed is this Saturday, May 16th, and will include a 5K Race, the annual Pet Parade and vendor booths.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 8 permits were issued, with fees of \$88,020 collected on \$857,071 worth of construction. There were 20 building inspections performed, and 2 property maintenance inspections.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for April, highlighting the preparation of all parks for spring use, continuation of working on the MS4, cleaning up the dock areas of Walnut Street and Chestnut Street, and assisting with the annual Spring Tree Planting. Council also reviewed the Playground Safety Checklist for all of the Borough parks and playgrounds.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for April, indicating that 25.361 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 290,828 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel are assisting with the odor control study which will be presented to Council by the end of May.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report, indicating that a date for the preconstruction meeting regarding the Waterworks Road Relocation Project has not yet been scheduled. KLH Engineers is working on the 5-Year Capital Plan for the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Report for the month of April, highlighting the Larry Oswald Appeal, several Right-to-Know Requests, legal clearance for the demolition of properties, and removal of shade trees.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$11,058.75.

Council reviewed proposed Ordinance No. 1333, providing for commercial permit parking between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, on both sides of Walnut Street, between Henry Avenue and Bank Street. The ordinance has been advertised, and is scheduled for adoption at the Council Meeting on Monday, May 18th.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Claim Report in the amount of \$11,857.62.

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Solicitor Tucker reviewed a Right-to-Know Request response for Erik and Sherri Murrer and their petition for review.

In addition, Solicitor Tucker reviewed a filing by Mr. and Mrs. Murrer and their attorney for a De Facto Condemnation of the Property. Solicitor Tucker advised that he will be defending the Borough regarding this action.

The Solicitor reported on the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v. Lawrence Oswald, No. SA-2744-2014, indicating that Mr. Oswald's attorney is rejecting the counter offer. This now will go to a hearing in June before Judge Gallo.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager provided an update on the 2015 Road Project, indicating that the curbs have been completed on Cochran Street. Curb work on Centennial Avenue is at Straight Street, and will continue to Blackburn Road. There is a second crew behind the curb crew doing the concrete sidewalk work. They then intend to complete the handicapped accessibility ramps, and staying on schedule to have Centennial Avenue completed by the end of June.

Council reviewed the weekly updates on the 2015 Road Project provided by the Borough Manager to residents.

The Borough Manager reported that Columbia Gas is on schedule with the gas line repairs on Cochran Street.

The Borough Manager advised that the 2016 Road Project recommendation will be received from the Borough Engineers for the July 14th Committee of the Whole Meeting in order that the process can be better communicated between the Tree Commission and property owners on any affected streets. The proposed roads for the 2016 are Broad Street, from Route 65 to Hill Street, Frederick Avenue and portion of Blackburn Road, from Hill Street to the entrance of War Memorial Park.

The Borough Manager reviewed the 2014-2015 road rock salt billings sent to the four communities in which the Borough supplies salt. In addition, he indicated that the option year has not been extended by the rock salt provider and the Borough, in participation with the Council of Governments, will be rebidding. The Borough Manager advised that he is very concerned because estimates may indicate a 40% increase in road rock salt cost per ton.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager advised that on Monday's agenda there would be a request to participate again in the Duquesne Light Street LED Street Lighting Program for 2015, with Centennial Avenue, from Academy Avenue to Boundary Street, and Thorn Street, from Academy Avenue to Boundary Street being the requested areas for lights to be replaced.

The Borough Manager reviewed letters to and from Mike Lyons regarding the Centennial Avenue trees, indicating that the Borough of Sewickley will be reviewing its tree ordinance in its entirety. Not only will there be a review of the notification issues, but emergency situations, and memorial dedications. The Borough Manager indicated that the Borough will be taking approximately 90-120 days to work with the Tree Commission and Council to review any changes for the ordinance.

The Borough Manager reviewed letters to and from Mark Jones regarding the 805 Centennial Avenue tree removal. It was explained that the tree at 805 Centennial Avenue was on the original schedule for removal and was simply not marked by the Arborist during his walk-through.

The Borough Manager did a review of Tree Commission procedures from various Tree City Communities in Pennsylvania, and is preparing recommendations for Council in order for any changes to occur with the Borough of Sewickley Tree Ordinance.

The Borough Manager reported that the Walnut Street Docks and Chestnut Street Ramps have been placed and are ready for use.

The Borough Manager advised that the Planning Commission held a hearing on the Village Theater Land Development on Wednesday, May 6th, and unanimously recommended approval of the Land Development Plan. The Borough Manager reviewed several exhibits for the project, and indicated that the Public Hearing before Council is scheduled for Monday, May 18, 2015. If Council is inclined to approve the Land Development, then a motion to approve the amendment to the lease agreement would be in order and the Village Theater would be able to apply for a building permit thereafter.

The Borough Manager reported on a meeting with Verizon regarding a small cell project. Verizon's attorney and the Borough's Special Counsel, Dan Cohen, are reviewing all of the language. There was an indication that Verizon will agree to a better financial arrangement with Sewickley, and Verizon will be doing an engineering walk-through in order to confirm the five locations proposed.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager advised that as of Monday, May 11th, the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce did obtain a Special Occasion Permit SO-8988 for the May 29, 2015 Brew & Barbecue Event to be held on Beaver Street, between Walnut Street and Broad Street, and on Locust Place, up to Hegner Way. In addition, the Borough Manager reported that the food vendors have submitted their Certificates of Insurance, naming the Borough as additional insured.

The Borough Manager reviewed an automobile claim regarding Chadwick Street which has been forwarded to the insurance company.

The Borough Manager advised that on Saturday, May 30th, the Boroughs of Sewickley and Leetsdale will be at the Joint Compost Facility, located at the Leetsdale Public Works Garages, from 8:00 a.m. to noon, to give away free compost to anyone who shows up.

Fred Jezzi, of the Sewickley Valley Chamber of Commerce, indicated that the next Chamber Board Meeting is on Wednesday, June 10th, at 5:30 p.m., in the Sewickley Public Library, and all are invited to attend.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Driscoll, at 8:30 p.m., the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf