

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015

President Susan Aleshire called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members in attendance were Bill Cornman, Tom DeFazio, Carole Ford, Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, and Larry Rice. Jamie Morrill was absent due to personal reasons and Charles Driscoll was absent due to work. The others in attendance were Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese of Explore Sewickley, Cindy Mullins, Peggy Standish, Peter Theis, Mark Davidson, 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 updates to Council including Small Business Saturday on November 28th, with the Ambridge Steel Drums in Sewickley. Light Up Night is on December 4th, and will include two smaller stages this year, fireworks, an ice carving contest to be held in Wolcott Park, and three food trucks providing food that will not be similar to anything that restaurants in the Borough offer. On December 5th, a Character Breakfast will be held at the Explore Sewickley office and the Santa Parade will also take place in the Borough.

There will be music and free carriage rides every Saturday and Sunday in December before Christmas as part of Yuletide in the Village.

To date, Explore Sewickley has raised \$29,700.00 of the estimated \$35,000 need to provide the event.

Jennifer Markus reported that Yarns Unlimited is retiring after 30 years, and will close their doors on December 23, 2015.

The Borough Manager reviewed correspondence regarding ADA ramps in the Borough of Sewickley and the Borough's program to replace them, much to the approval of the writer.

Councilperson Jeff Neff asked if the sandwich board at Lex and Lynn's, across from Clearview Credit Union, could be moved as it prevents people from utilizing the ADA ramp at that location.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe thanked the Quaker Valley Rotary and the Borough for an excellent Halloween Parade, and the Chamber of Commerce for the Wine Walk event held last Wednesday.

Mayor Jeffe also indicated that Light Up Night is Friday, December 4th, from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., with the Santa Parade the next day, on Saturday, December 5th, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR (CONTINUED)

Council President Susan Aleshire stated that there was an Executive Session before tonight's Committee of the Whole Meeting, for a personnel issue, the Borough Manager's review, and a contract matter.

Council President Aleshire indicated that there were over 400 cars at the Quaker Valley Council of Governments Recycling Day, held in Sewickley this past Saturday, November 7th. The new traffic pattern worked well this year.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 14 permits were issued, with fees of \$5,622.00 collected on \$362,260.00 worth of construction. There were 35 building inspections performed, and 3 property maintenance inspections.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for October, highlighting the completion of the Walnut Street parking stalls, the sign replacement for Centennial Avenue and Cochran Street, changing an air compressor in the Municipal Building, and preparation of the spreaders and plows for the snow season.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for October, indicating that 21.28 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 340,897 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel worked on the introduction of Bioxide at the Boundary Street Station, the grease bar screen, and drained and vacuum cleaned Aeration Tank No. 1.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report, indicating that the 5-Year proposed Plan has been received by the Borough, and they are working on the Bioxide study, with the introduction of Bioxide at the Boundary Street Pump Station and the Seibert Pump Station to reduce the hydrogen sulfide levels as the sewage approaches the plant. In addition, KLH Engineers are working with Norfolk Southern to complete repairs of the second manhole that is on the railroad property.

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

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SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Report for the month of October, highlighting the Parking Authority, bond refinancing, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Firemen's Insurance lawsuit, a Right-to-Know Request, and the preparation of the ordinance for police services to Glen Osborne.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$5,399.25.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Claim Report of October 26, 2015, in the amount of \$4,123.03.

Council reviewed a Tax Assessment Appeal being handled by the Quaker Valley School District regarding the Valley Medical Facilities at 701 Broad Street.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed Ordinance No. 1341, the Glen Osborne Police Services Agreement. It has been advertised for adoption at the Monday, November 16th Council Meeting.

Council reviewed correspondence between Solicitor Tucker and Fire Chief Neff regarding a resolution for a Small Games of Chance License for Cochran Hose Company. At this time, Cochran Hose Company is in agreement to pull the request before Council until Cochran Hose Company completes the 501(c)3 designation.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed correspondence related to the Firemen's Insurance Company of Washington vs. KLH Engineers, Wastewater Treatment Plant et al, No. G.D.14-17951.

Solicitor Tucker confirmed the corporate existence of the Sewickley Parking Authority and that documents were received from the Secretary of the Commonwealth, the Department of the State of Pennsylvania, and was officially incorporated in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on October 27, 2015.

Solicitor Tucker reported that the Murrers have filed an appeal to Judge DelVecchio's order regarding the DeFacto Condemnation brought by Eric M. and Sherri C. Murrer, No. G.D.15-007617

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager reviewed a punch list of items regarding the 2015 Road Project. The list included the backfilling of dirt, brick alignments, concrete work, some patch repairs, and the sealing of some areas of Cochran Street and Centennial Avenue. In addition, 19 trees have been planted, and 9 more will be planted over the next two weeks. Duquesne Light is expected to begin replacement of all the street light cobra heads by the end of November. There will be one additional walkthrough to be scheduled later in November.

The Borough Manager indicated that Columbia Gas and their contractor are addressing additional road repairs as a result of their paving. Most of the issues are ponding problems and are occurring on McDonald Street, Dippold Street, at the intersections of Harbaugh Street and Chestnut Street and Harbaugh Street and Woods Place.

The Borough Manager reviewed forms that have been sent to the pension actuaries and the pension fund managers, as per Pennsylvania Act 44. Responses to the forms will be in the December 15th Committee of the Whole Meeting Packet.

The Borough Manager provided a public advertisement for the various positions on the Boards and Commissions of the Borough of Sewickley that expire on December 31, 2015. In addition, letters were sent to the current members whose terms are up for their reapplication. As has been Council's practice, public interviews will be conducted for those positions during the hour before the December 15th Committee of the Whole Meeting and the hour before the December 21st Council Meeting.

The Borough Manager reviewed Standard and Poor's rating upgrade, which upgraded the Borough's bond rating from AA- to AA. The report indicates that the Borough is doing the correct things by building balances and funding infrastructure.

On motion of Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. DeFazio, Council voted, 7-0, to adopt Borough of Sewickley Resolution No. 2015-018, the Disposition of Records, which are the 2006 and 2007 General Fund and Sewer Fund vouchers, per the Retention Schedule of the Pennsylvania Historic Museum Commission.

The Borough Manager reviewed the legal ads related to the 2016 Borough of Sewickley Budget and Ordinance No. 1340, Reducing the Real Estate Tax Millage from 6.50 mills to 6.25 mills. Three additional resolutions need to be adopted first, which increase fees related to subdivision, land development, zoning, conditional use and sign permits, as well as tree memorial plantings and plaques. Council reviewed letters to the adjoining municipalities and the Quaker Valley School District. The Borough Manager indicated that the 2016 Budget is not only available on the Borough of Sewickley Website, but a detailed copy is in the Borough Manager's office and the Sewickley Public Library.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager reviewed the agenda that was presented at the Employee Meeting of October 15th. All employees were provided a statement on their health care costs for 2016, a pension statement for their records, a pay date advisory for 2016, and information regarding participation in the 2016 Wellness Program.

The Borough Manager indicated that the Planning Commission met on November 4, 2015, and recommended the rezoning request of the Sewickley Car Store, to add two adjoining properties from the R1A Zoning District to the Highway Commercial 2 Zoning District. The subdivision request was also recommended by the Planning Commission. If Council approves the rezoning, the two lots would be combined with the existing Townhouse property, and this would be known as the Townhouse Consolidation Plan of Lots. A Public Hearing is scheduled before Council on November 16, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. The first request would be for rezoning, and the second request would be for the subdivision.

The Borough Manager provided a letter sent to the Borough of Sewickley Civil Service Commission Members with a request to meet at the end of November to work with Police Chief Ersher in establishing a test date. This is in order that a written test can be given and oral exams can be processed with the intention of the Civil Service Commission forwarding a recommended Police Officers Eligibility List to Council by January 18, 2016. The existing Police Officers Eligibility List expires on February 3, 2016.

The Borough Manager reminded Council that the Police Chief Performance Evaluation will be on Tuesday, December 15th, before the Committee of the Whole Meeting, and the interview will be coordinated by Mayor Brian Jeffe. In addition, the Solicitor Performance Evaluation will be on Tuesday, January 12, 2016, before the Committee of the Whole Meeting. The Solicitor's review is being coordinated by Council President Susan Aleshire.

The Borough Manager reviewed a Right-to-Know Law Training Update that was provided by the Borough's Association. Copies of the webinar information were provided to the Members of Council. One particular highlight is that the Borough will need to create a Right-to-Know Section on our website to include Right-to-Know Requests that we have received.

The Borough Manager indicated that the Parking Authority met on Monday, November 2, 2015, with Tom DeFazio elected as Chairperson, Robert Glenn as Vice Chairperson, Brian Jeffe as Secretary, and Fred Jezzi as Treasurer. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 7th, at 7:30 p.m. Mr. DeFazio indicated that the review of the parking stations proposal received by Council will be forwarded to the Parking Authority for their review.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager reviewed a list of real estate tax refunds to be processed in the amount of \$533.81 for 2013, \$2,263.59 for 2014, and \$20,980.07 for 2015.

Council reviewed the Walnut Street Permit Parking Application.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Renner, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf