

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

President Susan Aleshire called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Bill Cornman, Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Jeff Neff, Carole Ford, and Todd Renner. Jamie Morrill was absent due to work. Larry Rice was absent due to personal reasons. The others in attendance were Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese of Explore Sewickley, Cindy Mullins, Peter Floyd, Joan Miles, Father Tom Burke, Larissa Dudkiewicz of the Sewickley Herald, Terry Price, Christopher Ponticello, Donna Work, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Chris Voltz, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese, of Explore Sewickley, provided updates to Council on events taking place in the Borough of Sewickley. They reviewed the Yuletide Planning Schedule, and indicated that three new businesses will be opening up in Sewickley, *Keller Williams* on Walnut Street, *Three Dog Bakery* on Beaver Street, and *Village Skin Medical Spa* in the Nickelodeon Mall. They advised that the Explore Sewickley Main Street Application is at a standstill due to the lack of an adopted state budget.

Explore Sewickley reviewed their performance measures, as of the third quarter of 2015. In addition, they provided an update on all four of the committee structures associated with the Main Street Program.

In addition, Explore Sewickley will be coordinating the Halloween in the Business District Event on October 31st, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

Chris Ponticello, Counsel for the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Father Tom Burke, Pastor, and Terry Price, Business Manager for St. James Church, were in attendance regarding a sidewalk violation on Broad Street. Three pieces of concrete have lifted due to tree roots. The Borough Manager explained that the responsibility of sidewalks and curbs are the property owners and that the Borough will work with the property owner regarding the sidewalk. The Borough Arborist will meet with Luffy Masonry to review possible corrections in order that the sidewalks and trees can maintain the same space. St. James Church was in agreement to proceed in that manner.

On motion of Mrs. Ford, seconded by Mr. Neff, Council voted, 7-0, to grant the request of St. James School for the closing of Bank Street on October 29, 2015, from approximately 12:30 pm until 1:30 pm for the St. James Halloween Parade.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (Continued)

The 8th Annual Sewickley Academy Pancake Breakfast, benefitting our local Fire and Police Departments, will be on Saturday, October 24th, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Middle and Senior School Cafeteria. The cost for the breakfast is \$5.00. The Sewickley Academy donates money to the Cochran Hose Company, the Borough of Sewickley Police Department and the Borough of Edgeworth Police Department.

Council reviewed a request from Chuck Pipich, Chairman of the Jaguar Car Show. He thanked the Borough for the event this year on Broad Street and indicated that the 35th edition will be in 2016. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Cornman, Council voted, 7-0, to approve the request for the Jaguar Car Show to be held on Saturday, August 6, 2016.

The Borough Manager reviewed two Right-to-Know Requests. The first request was from Assets International, of Southfield, Michigan, in which the Borough indicated that it was going to take 30 days to gather the information. The request was for a list of all checks cancelled or unclaimed. The Borough Manager indicated that no such record exists and that would require Borough staff to create a record.

The second request was from American Transparency, out of Boca Raton, Florida, indicating that they wanted a list of all employees for 2013 and 2014, with their full names, hire date, gross annual wages, and the position each employee had in each of those years. The Borough complied with that request and forwarded the information.

Council reviewed a Relay for Life request to hold their event on June 4, 2016, from 12:00 noon to 12:00 midnight, on Broad Street. Several Members of Council asked if the event could be held at the Middle School so as not to tie up the Business District that day. On motion of Mr. Neff, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 7-0, to table the matter until the next meeting in order to obtain more information from the Relay for Life, asking if they would be willing to utilize the Middle School facilities.

Peter Floyd, of 337 Bank Street, was in attendance, questioning whether there was a public hearing as mentioned in the Herald for the Parking Authority. It was explained to Mr. Floyd that there was a public notice for the potential adoption of an ordinance establishing the Parking Authority. Mr. Floyd stated that there is no parking problem in the Borough of Sewickley. He stated that any parking problems are probably due to the fact that there is a failure to comply with the Zoning Ordinance requirements for parking for all businesses within the Borough of Sewickley. He stated that years ago he was in favor of a Parking Authority. He questioned whether the Borough of Sewickley was going to back the Parking Authority.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (CONTINUED)

It was explained that the Parking Authority would be established and funded with Revenue Bonds, and the proceeds of all on street and off street public parking would be used to retire any debt or cost of the Parking Authority.

Joan Miles, of 801 Hill Street, stated that parking is a difficult issue in the Borough of Sewickley. She applauds Council trying to find a solution, but wanted to express that the Borough of Sewickley should not be backing any debt for the Parking Authority. In addition, she asked about any potential meetings and dates of meetings. The Borough Manager advised her that if the Parking Authority is adopted at tonight's meeting, that the Parking Authority would be a separate governmental entity. However, all of the meeting dates would be advertised on the Borough of Sewickley Website and a link would be created on the website to sign up for all future notices and agendas of the Parking Authority.

Donna Work, of Cochran Street, expressed concern over the road contractor's workplace safety. The Borough Manager indicated that it would be reviewed with the Borough road engineers and the contractor.

Peter Theis, of 628 Broad Street, asked about Xs painted on telephone poles. He was advised that it was an indication that the pole was going to be replaced. He asked if Duquesne Light could be contacted to see if it was possible to move the pole approximately 15 feet in order that a future driveway can be placed on his property.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe indicated that the Sewickley Halloween Parade, sponsored by the Quaker Valley Rotary and the Borough of Sewickley, will be held on Saturday, October 31st, at 10:30 a.m., in front of the Borough Municipal Building.

Mayor Jeffe stated that Halloween Trick or Treating in Sewickley will be on Saturday, October 31st, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Sewickley Wine Walk will be on Wednesday, November 4th, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Council President Susan Aleshire indicated that the Quaker Valley Council of Governments Recycling Day will be on Saturday, November 7th, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., hosted by the Borough of Sewickley. The Borough Manager indicated that the event will be held on Thorn Street, from Peebles Street to Chestnut Street, in order that the drop-off points are more easily accessible.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR (CONTINUED)

Council President Aleshire announced that there will be an Executive Session at the conclusion of the Committee of Whole Meeting, regarding the Sewickley Borough Employees' Association Contract and the Borough of Glen Osborne Police Protection Agreement.

Cindy Mullins, of 517 Grimes Street, indicated that the normal street sweeping day on Grimes Street is Wednesday, and that cars have not been moved the last 2 weeks. She requested that the cars be tagged in order that the sweeping of the streets can occur.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 11 permits were issued, with fees of \$12,788.00 collected on \$1,225,000.00 worth of construction. There were 45 building inspections performed, and 3 property maintenance inspections.

On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Cornman, Council voted, 7-0, to approve the recommendation of the Historic Review Commission, to issue a Certificate of Appropriateness for 315 Henry Avenue, Block and Lot No. 506-D-284, to enclose rear deck as an all seasons room, as submitted.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for September, highlighting work done patching streets, MS4, realigning the Municipal Parking Lots, and preparation of the leaf machine and leaf truck for fall leaf pick-up.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for September, indicating that 21.82 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 289,298 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel worked on the aeration tanks, primary sludge valves, the Digester Building, and the Huber Building.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report, highlighting that the Water Works Road Relocation Project, indicating that the sanitary sewers portion has been completed. The Borough Manager has advised that Mele and Mele called the Borough and asked for permission to work from 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. They indicated that they need to do a lot of drilling, and the rock is very thick. Council was in agreement to grant Mele and Mele the extra time in order that the project can be completed before winter. The Borough Manager was asked to provide notification to all residents in the area.

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 September, highlighting the Parking Authority draft, bond refinancing, potential property donation, tax assessment appeals and real estate tax bill with regards to Water Works Park.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$6,563.83.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Claim Report of September 24, 2015, indicating that \$12,598.38 was collected.

Council discussed proposed Ordinance No. 1337, establishing the Borough of Sewickley Parking Authority. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 6-1, with Mr. Neff voting, no, to adopt Borough of Sewickley Ordinance No. 1337, establishing the Borough of Sewickley Parking Authority.

Council President Susan Aleshire indicated that the first meeting would be scheduled for October 26th, at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

Council reviewed a Notice of Intent to Sue from an incident at a ball game at the Chadwick Street Field.

Council reviewed a letter to Attorney Thompson, declining to accept the donation of the Carton properties.

Council acknowledged receipt of the letter of Voluntary Dissolution of the Quaker Valley K-9 Foundation.

Council reviewed the bond refinancing ordinance. The Borough Manager indicated that Janney Montgomery advised that Wall Street would not have the rating ready until Tuesday, October 20th, which would require the Borough to have a meeting the following week in order that the bonds may be sold. The Borough Manager recommended scheduling the meeting for Wednesday, October 28th, at 6:30 p.m. On motion of Mr. Renner, seconded by Mr. DeFazio, Council voted, 7-0, to schedule a Special Meeting for the purpose of the adoption of the Bond Refinancing Ordinance.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager discussed the 2015 Road Project, indicating that the paving of Centennial Avenue was completed on Thursday, October 8th, and both Cochran Street and Centennial Avenue were sealed. The contractor will be placing white lines for stop bars and traffic signals, as well as checking all necessary repair items, including the piping from downspouts, backfilling properties between the curb and the sidewalk, some sidewalk work, and brick restoration projects. The new signage, in conformance with the Reflectivity Standards, will be placed by the Borough the week of October 26th. By the end of the month, Duquesne Light will begin to replace all of the street light cobra heads with new white LED efficiency lights. The final walk-through has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 21st, at 10:00 a.m., with Bob Firek of Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering.

The Borough Manager advised that approximately 20 people attended the October 5, 2015 Budget Presentation on Capital Projects and Department Head Requests. The review of the expenditures and revenues will occur this Saturday, on October 17, 2015, at 7:00 a.m. The Borough Manager had Budget Meeting Packets for Council Members as well as Council Candidates. Should Council approve a tentative budget on October 17th, it will be reviewed at the Council Meeting on October 19th and both meetings in November, with possible final adoption of the budget on November 16, 2015. In addition, upon the tentative adoption, a copy of the Budget Document will be placed in the Sewickley Public Library, on the Borough of Sewickley Website, as well as distributed to all of the neighboring communities in which a service is provided by the Borough. In addition, the advertisements will be placed on the Sewickley TV Channels Comcast 765 and Verizon 38.

Council reviewed the 2015 Foreign Fire payment from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which is a pass-through to the Cochran Hose Company, in the amount of \$31,989.32.

Council reviewed state allocation under the Act 205 Municipal Pension State Aid, indicating that \$157,456.03 was received toward the Borough's required payment of \$496,087.00.

Council reviewed holidays observed by the Borough office in order that the schedule can be advertised for the public.

The Borough Manager reviewed the Staff Performance Evaluations Schedule, which indicates that at the November 10, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Borough Manager evaluation shall take place; the Chairperson for the evaluation is Councilperson Tom DeFazio. The Police Chief's evaluation will take place at the December 15, 2015 Committee of the Whole Meeting; the review will be chaired by Mayor Brian Jeffe. The Solicitor review will occur at the January 12, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting, with Council President Susan Aleshire chairing the review.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Council reviewed Hoey's Run LLC Subdivision Request, which entails taking approximately 7 deeds and transfer them into 4 separate lots. The Planning Commission has recommended approval of the subdivision, contingent upon an easement agreement, per the recommendation of the Borough Engineers, Lennon, Smith, Souleret Engineering.

The Borough Manager reviewed a memo to the employees advising them of an open meeting, scheduled for Thursday, October 15, at 2:00 p.m., for employees to review the healthcare increase for 2016 (which is 1.04%), receive their pension statement, which is done every 2 years in accordance with the actuarial valuation report and to review the Wellness Program for 2016 in which Municipal Benefits Services has secured a third party health advocate to review wellness factors. The Borough will no longer be doing wellness blood draws on site. The employees will be able to simply go to their regular doctor, and the doctor will complete and forward the results to the health advocate. We are hopeful to get over 50% of our employees to participate in the Wellness Program.

The Borough Manager indicated that Cochran Hose Company was requesting a Small Games of Chance Resolution. The resolution will be on the Monday, October 19th Council Agenda. Confirmation of Cochran Hose being incorporated will complete the action.

Council reviewed a report from Police Chief Jim Ersher regarding an issue on Downing Way. Several Members of Council had questions about the Chief's recommendation, and asked if the Chief could attend Monday's Council Meeting in order that they completely understand the recommendation. If Council would be inclined to accept the recommendation, the Borough Manager recommended that all property owners along Downey Way would receive a notice that the item would be placed on the November 10th Committee of the Whole Meeting Agenda for comment before Council takes any action.

Council reviewed a Borough of Edgeworth notice, regarding a proposed drive-through at the Starbucks location in front of the Esmark Building, on Route 65. The notice indicates that the applicant is attempting to obtain two variances for that business to be established.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

Council went into Executive Session at 9:22 p.m. for the Sewickley Borough Employees' Association Contract and the Borough of Glen Osborne Police Protection Agreement. Council went back into Regular Session at 9:42 p.m.

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ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Renner, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf