

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2016

President Susan Aleshire called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Bill Cornman, Mark Davidson, Tom DeFazio, Charles Driscoll, Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, Larry Rice, and Peter Theis. The others in attendance were Alex Lancianese and Jennifer Markus of Explore Sewickley, Michael Seate of Café Racer, Peter McMillen of SMSA Limited Partnership, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Markus, of Explore Sewickley, provided an update to Council that the Chocolate Walk was a sellout and comments were very positive regarding the event. In addition, the Main Street application has been forwarded to the Department of Community and Economic Development in Harrisburg.

Mrs. Lancianese also of Explore Sewickley stated that the Happy Hour on February 4 was very well attended with over 30 attendees. In addition, the Three Dog Bakery ribbon cutting was held on Friday, February 5, 2015.

Mike Seate of Café Racer addressed Council regarding a request to use War Memorial Park on Saturday, August 13, for a Café Racer Motorcycle Show which would attract over 300 spectators to the event. Previously, in 2015, the event was held on Beall Way and the participation was over expectations. Mr. Seate was in agreement to pay for the shelter rentals that day, provide the appropriate Certificate of Insurances naming the Borough as additional insureds, and will clean up the park after the event. On motion of Mr. Neff, seconded by Mr. Davidson, Council voted, 9-0, to approve the request as long as all conditions are met.

Peter McMillen, of SMSA, was in attendance to review changes to the Small Cell Technology proposal to Council for Broad Street. Mr. Millen was able to relocate two cell installations from the Broad Street median to other locations. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Rice, Council voted, 9-0, to remove from table and place on Monday's Agenda for final vote.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Brian Jeffe presented the Police Officer Eligibility List as recommended by the Civil Service Commission. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Neff, Council voted, 9-0, to accept recommendation of the Civil Service Commission and approve the Police Officer Eligibility List dated February 9, 2016.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR (CONTINUED)

Council President provided an update from the Quaker Valley Council of Governments stating that John Jakiela, long-time Executive Director, has decided to leave the COG. The COG Directors are conducting a search for a new Director.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 6 permits were issued, with fees of \$7,257.00 collected on \$665,737.00 worth of construction. There were 38 building inspections performed.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for January, highlighting working on the MS4 update, snow removal and emergency repairs to high-lift.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for January, indicating that 21.660 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 276,056 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Wastewater Treatment Plant personnel worked on the Head Works room redesign. Council reviewed letter appointing Mr. Shawn Rosensteel as the new Engineer for the WWTP.

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 January, highlighting a Right-to-Know Request, Business Privilege Tax Review, Dangerous Building Demolition Ordinance and the Tree Ordinance.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of 7,131.74.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Lien Claim Report of January 21, 2016, in the amount of \$7,228.93.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed a letter regarding updating of dangerous buildings and demolition requirements. Council was in agreement to proceed with upgrade.

Council reviewed several real estate tax assessment appeals.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager reviewed the 2016 Road Project Bid Schedule, with bids due on March 15, 2016. The residents' meeting was held on Tuesday, February 2, with 34 attendees. All tree work was reviewed, as well as sidewalk and road repairs. Columbia Gas will be replacing the gas line on Straight Street before the road project.

Borough Manager stated the Borough of Sewickley is a member of the MRM (Municipal Risk Management) Trust. The Trust shares its cost savings with its members based on experience. Over the past five years, \$32,265 in property dividends and over \$50,000 in workers' compensation dividends have been returned to the Borough.

A. Property Package Policy

The Property and Umbrella Policy is \$72,075, compared to \$69,728 in 2015. The increase is associated with an increase in values of municipal properties and improvements to the properties, as well as the purchase of the new street sweeper and a new police car.

B. Professional Liability Policy

The Professional Liability Public Officials and Law Enforcement Policy is \$58,770, compared to \$56,943 in 2015. The increase is attributable to an influx of cases nationwide against police officers and municipal governments regarding police procedures. Both of the increases are under the budgeted 3% for each of those line items.

Council reviewed letter on the repairs to Dickson Road. Liberoni, the 2016 Road Project Contractor, was able to complete the repairs.

The Borough Manager advised that Montessori Children's School wants to research a project to paint a mural on the Chestnut Street tunnel wall to address graffiti. Borough Manager to meet with school and present an action plan to Council in the upcoming months on painting a mural on the tunnel wall.

The Borough Manager indicated that the Little Garden Club wants to beautify the planting spaces on Walnut Street from Beaver Road to Duquesne Way. Council thanked the Little Garden Club for their assistance.

The Borough Manager advised that Quaker Valley Relay for Life will be conducting this year's activities at the Sewickley YMCA.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager stated that Mark Turnley has begun the 2015 Audit and will file all required reports by March 31, 2016. Mr. Turnley will be at the April Committee of the Whole to review the audit with Council.

Council reviewed the 2015 Road Project sidewalk billings to the property owners.

Council reviewed the Berkheimer Bond Certificates for Local Service Tax and the Business Privilege Tax.

On motion of Mr. Neff, seconded by Mr. Theis, Council, voted, 9-0, to approve award of the following contracts for tree services:

- A. 2016 Tree Pruning Project, Contract No. 2016-TC-001, in the amount of \$1,810, to Tall Timber Tree Experts.
- B. 2016 Tree Removal Project, Contract No. 2016-TC-002, in the amount of \$6,950, to Carl's Tree Service.
- C. 2016 Borough Oak Pruning Project, Contract No. 2016-TC-003, in the amount of \$10,735, to Carl's Tree Service.

The Borough Manager advised that the proposed Shade Tree Commission Ordinance has been advertised for adoption on Monday, February 15, 2016.

Council reviewed a donation of \$1,000 from the Trowel and Error Garden Club, to be allocated to the cost of tree pruning and removals in Wolcott Park.

Council reviewed the Council Retreat Meeting goals. Changes were incorporated and a revised list will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

The Borough Manager attended the Pennsylvania Municipal Managers Winter Meeting. One of the topics was the Pennsylvania Budget, both last year and the coming year. In particular, last year's budget has not been approved, and Governor Wolf had line itemed the Public Employment Retirement Commission. The Public Employment Retirement Commission basically takes pension data and certifies that everything presented is correct, and forwards it to the Auditor General in order that pension payments can be forwarded to the various municipalities and authorities in October and November in Pennsylvania. As of right now, the Public Employment Retirement Commission has done nothing for 2016. We envision that they are approximately 3½ to 4½ months behind schedule. The attached letters from both our actuary and the Public Employment Retirement Commission indicate that this is going to be a real mess. I prefer to remain cautious, and I have advised all Department Heads to curtail spending until May in an effort to not spend \$150,000 in the event that we do not receive monies from the Commonwealth for the Pension Plans.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager advised that a phone conversation was held with the state mediator on January 28th to review Mr. Yasko's Right-to-Know appeals. Mr. Yasko did not participate in the phone call. The mediator indicated that the Borough has been very compliant and has met the terms. She indicated that she was going to reach out to Mr. Yasko one more time. We now have an additional mediation hearing scheduled for Thursday, February 11th, at 2:00 p.m.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Driscoll, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf