

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
JULY 12, 2016

President Susan Aleshire called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Members in attendance were Bill Cornman, Charles Driscoll (arrived at 7:43 p.m.), Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, Larry Rice and Sean Figley. Mark Davidson was absent due to work and Tom DeFazio was absent due to vacation. The others in attendance were Larissa Dudkiewicz of the Sewickley Herald, Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese of Explore Sewickley, Scott Hoffman of KLH Engineers, Gail Murray, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Jennifer Markus and Alex Lancianese addressed Borough Council regarding Explore Sewickley's 2015 Annual Report and the 990 Report which were provided for Council's perusal. In addition, they presented a preliminary informational packet to welcome new businesses to the Borough of Sewickley. They also asked Borough Council for permission to have another *Balance on Broad* on Saturday, September 17th due to the fact that the June 11th *Balance on Broad* was cancelled due to weather. On motion of Mr. Renner, seconded by Mr. Rice, Council voted, 6-0, to approve the *Balance on Broad* event request.

Ms. Markus indicated that Explore Sewickley is also asking for a resolution for a small game of chance license. A copy of the application was made available for Council.

Council reviewed a request from Sewickley Presbyterian Church to place a pod on the property in anticipation for the collection of items for the church's annual *Day on the Lawn* scheduled for September 10th. On motion of Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Neff, Council gave permission for the pod to be placed from today's date through September 12th, to assist the Presbyterian Church for the *Day on the Lawn* event.

Council reviewed a request from Cuttings for the 2nd *Annual Vintage Fair*, which is scheduled to be held the same day as the *Sewickley Harvest Festival*, on September 10th on Locust Place. Ms. Gia Kauffman, of 517 Locust Place, was in attendance, and indicated that for the past year, they have not received notice from the Chamber of Commerce or from Cuttings regarding events on Locust Place. They have a newborn baby and they need to get in and out of their driveway on Locust Place. Borough Council was in agreement to send a letter to the Chamber of Commerce, indicating that the space for the *Night Marts* will end at the end of the Starbucks property on Locust Place. This will allow access to 517 Locust Place. With regard to the 2nd *Annual Vintage Fair*, Council was in agreement to have organizers, including Cuttings, meet with the residents of Locust Place and try to come up with a workable solution.

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COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe indicated that *Rockin' on the River* is proceeding for Saturday, August 13th. They have secured the necessary insurance information.

Council President Susan Aleshire indicated that *Night Marts* are scheduled for Friday, July 29th and Friday, August 26th, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm; the *Jaguar Car Show* is on Saturday, August 6th, from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm on Broad Street; and *Balance on Broad* is scheduled for Saturday, August 13th, from 8:00 am to 10:00 am.

Mr. Cornman indicated that the neighbors on Maple Lane are raising complaints about Sewickley Car Store employees parking on Maple Lane. Originally, the employees of the Car Store were to park in the lot between Chadwick Street and Ohio River Blvd. Mr. Cornman indicated that the neighbors may want to proceed with *Resident Only Parking* if the situation is not rectified. Mr. Cornman also addressed Council regarding an incident on Chestnut Street in which the Borough assisted cleaning up fuel from a car. In addition, Mr. Cornman wanted to be sure that with PennDOT, a strobe light will be placed at the Chestnut Street light on Route 65, coming into Sewickley.

Mr. Neff stated he has received Jake Brake complaints from the 600 Block of Ohio River Blvd.

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 4 permits were issued, with fees of \$1,083.00 collected on \$63,800.00 worth of construction. There were 48 building inspections performed.

Council reviewed Zoning Hearing Board Decision No. 16-05, a request for a Height Variance granted to Hoey's Run LLC.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for June, highlighting continued work on the MS4-Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Map Update, assisting with *Night Mart*, and repairing the bridge and cleaning the creek at War Memorial Park.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for June, indicating that 22.167 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 453,944 cubic feet of digester gas was used.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report, providing a progress report on the McDonald Street Project and the renovation of the wet well room.

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 June, highlighting Municipal Claims for Demolition Costs being filed, the McDonald Street Flooding and Sewer Back-up Issue, and the Department of Environmental Protection claims.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$3,526.50.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed tax assessment appeals for settlement and discontinuance.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Lien Claim Report of June 21, 2016, in the amount of \$5,774.26.

Council reviewed Melissa Farlow and Randy Olson v. Borough of Sewickley Zoning Hearing Board and the Borough of Sewickley Nos. SA-13-738 and SA-13-342. It appears that the parties would like the Presbyterian Church to remove the 2 telephone poles placed in Duquesne Way. The Borough was in agreement that this is a matter between Ms. Farlow and Mr. Olsen and the Presbyterian Church.

Council reviewed claims filed for demolitions in the amount of \$7,000 for 326 Sprott Way and \$7,000 for 923 Dickson Road. Notification letters to the property owners were also reviewed by Council.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager advised that the concrete work on Broad Street has continued into the Business District. The contractor will be moving to Straight Street the week of July 18th to begin the installation of the storm sewer piping. The concrete work on Broad Street should be completed by July 22nd.

Columbia Gas is 90% complete with the restoration of the sidewalks and curbs. On Hill Street, there will be a walkthrough upon the completion of the project to verify that all standards have been met. Two residents from Hill Street have approached the Borough with individual items; Columbia Gas is meeting with the residents to rectify.

Council reviewed a list of the billings for the 2015 sidewalk payments. Under the Borough's program, the Borough assists the property owners with sidewalk repairs by placing their work in the Borough's contract. The Borough pays for the residents' sidewalk repairs, and then requests payment back from the residents within 6 months. Residents are also entitled to sign up for a payment plan.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager advised that there are 8 utility poles throughout the Borough that have had all of the other communication lines removed, and the poles are now in place to be removed. The Borough Manager pointed out that the pole in front of the Borough Building, at Logan and Thorn, is ready to be removed.

The Borough Manager reviewed the McDonald Street/Maple Lane Storm Sewer Emergency Repairs Permits, pursuant to the Emergency Declaration by Borough Council at its June 20th meeting. The first permit represents Norfolk Southern Activity Permit No. 1215483, for the temporary force main, which is for the pump and 1400 feet of piping to run the storm water from Maple Lane to Chestnut Street in the event of heavy rains. The second permit is for Norfolk Southern Activity Permit No. 1215811, which is for the actual replacement and installation of a 24 inch gravity sewer pipe in a 36 inch steel casing under the railroad tracks. The Borough Manager indicated that the temporary force main was to be installed on July 13th, but when Mr. Hoffman of KLH Engineers checked, the railroad was not able to provide notice to the Borough that it did not have a signalman ready, as is required by the Norfolk Southern Permit. The installation of the temporary force main will now be on Tuesday, July 19, 2016.

The Borough Manager indicated that two Resolutions, ratifying the actions of the Borough Council President, the Borough Manager and the Borough Solicitor, have been prepared. The other motion is to ratify the contract of Rain For Rent for the Temporary Force Main. Rain For Rent was the least expensive, at \$24,352.20 for a month. The other company was approximately \$15,000 more.

Mr. Cornman made a motion to adopt Borough of Sewickley Resolution No. 2016-013, ratifying Borough Officers' action in agreement with Norfolk Southern Activity No. 1215843, Temporary Force Main Project. President Aleshire called three times for a second; no second was provided.

The Borough Manager proceeded to move through the agenda. Several Members of Council asked for reconsideration. Mr. Cornman was willing to make the motion again, and made a motion to adopt Borough of Sewickley Resolution No. 2016-013, ratifying Borough Officers' action in agreement with Norfolk Southern Activity No. 1215843, Temporary Force Main Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Renner, and Council voted, 7-0, to approve.

On motion of Mr. Renner, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 7-0, to adopt Borough of Sewickley Resolution No. 2016-014, ratifying Borough Officers' action in agreement with Norfolk Southern Activity No. 1215811, 24 Inch Pipe in 36 Inch Casing Project.

On motion of Mr. Renner, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 7-0, to ratify contract with Rain for Rent for Temporary Force Main in the Amount of \$24,352.20.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Scott Hoffman, of KLH Engineers, was in attendance and answered questions posed by Council Members, explaining that the way to correct the issue was to place the new pipe underneath the railroad tracks in order that the Borough will no longer have to utilize the Norfolk Southern property. The access points will be by the Maple Lane Pump Station and at the river. Mr. Hoffman was asked if there was another way to come in from the river to clean it. Mr. Hoffman explained that the pipe does not run perpendicular, which the Railroad would prefer. He explained that the pipe goes down the hill, and then out into the river, at a point not known. Mr. Hoffman indicated that the Borough, most likely, would have to get a diver to try to find the pipe and try to come in at the end of the pipe that is in the river and attempt to clean the pipe that way. Mr. Hoffman indicated that this was the most effective and efficient way to remedy the situation.

Solicitor Tucker indicated that he would like to have an Executive Session regarding the permanent repairs for the project. Council went into Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. and concluded the Executive Session at 9:03 p.m.

Council was back in session and Solicitor Tucker recommended that the Borough proceed to do a bid advertisement for the completion of the permanent emergency repairs of the pipe. On motion of Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Renner, Council voted, 7-0, to seek public advertisements for the permanent repairs associated with the 24 Inch Pipe and 36 Inch Casing Project, with bid results due for the August 9th Committee of the Whole Meeting in order that Council may award at the August 9th meeting, and would request that the perspective bidder be able to begin the project within 72 hours.

Borough Manager reviewed the 38 LED municipal cobra head street light conversation request submitted to Duquesne Light.

The Borough Manager advised that a parcel in Edgeworth at the end of Academy Avenue, commonly known as the Dithridge Estate, is proposing to subdivide into two residential lots. The properties in question include a small sliver of a Borough of Sewickley tax parcel. The Borough of Sewickley is working with the Edgeworth Borough Manager on this subdivision request. Both Boroughs and the developers are in agreement that the Borough of Sewickley would have three requirements: 1) Any private road constructed would be able to support Borough of Sewickley emergency equipment, namely fire trucks; 2) both Sewickley and Edgeworth would require a permanent requirement that no connection would be made to either parcel from Route 65; 3) Borough of Sewickley would entertain sewage services for the properties. The Sewickley Planning Commission has scheduled a Public Hearing for Wednesday, August 3rd. Council was in agreement for a Public Hearing before Council on Monday, August 15th. The County Economic Development Office has already reviewed the request and finds no objections.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Council reviewed a Planning Module Request from Hoey's Run, LLC a regarding the calculations for the necessary sanitary sewer taps and services for the proposed new buildings at the old Martin Wise property. Some credits apply from the old structures, but there will be new taps for the Borough of Sewickley on this project.

Council reviewed an incident report regarding one of our decorative street lights on the corner of Beaver Street and Blackburn Road that was hit. The Borough Manager indicated that the Borough is working with the driver's insurance company to have it replaced.

Council reviewed an incident regarding a car which reportedly amassed a lot of tar from the Sewickley Bridge onto a tire. The Borough referred them to PennDOT.

Borough Manager presented photographs indicating some graffiti damage to the Walnut Street and Chestnut Street tunnels. The unfavorable language posted was removed with a soda ash wash. The company has indicated that they can do both tunnels for \$5,000. The Borough Manager is in discussions with Sherwin Williams to obtain non-graffiti paint as a donation to the Borough of Sewickley to complete the restoration of the tunnels. The Borough Manager requested a motion to approve the expenditure due to the fact that the tunnels are part of the recreational system in the Borough of Sewickley and graffiti is not the type of decoration that the Borough of Sewickley wants to see. On motion of Mr. Driscoll, seconded by Mr. Cornman, Council voted, 7-0, to permit the Borough Manager to have the Walnut Street and Chestnut Street tunnels cleaned and coated.

Council reviewed a letter forwarded to Department Heads, Boards and Commissions to start the 2017 Budget process.

Council reviewed a memo from PennDOT regarding the Ohio River Blvd. proposed work in 2018. PennDOT is planning to do concrete patch repairs and repave both lanes of Route 65, from Emsworth to the Sewickley Bridge. The project is scheduled to begin in approximately May of 2018.

The Borough Manager reviewed proposed Ordinance 2016-015, approving the 2015 Allegheny County Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Borough of Sewickley has reviewed the plan in 2015 at various meetings, and the County is asking for the resolution to be adopted by Council. Council was in agreement to place it on the agenda at the July 18th meeting.

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BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

The Borough Manager reviewed a plan, indicating that Thorn Street, from Walnut Street to Broad Street will have 8 metered spaces returned upon completion of the new buildings. The Columbia Gas subcontractor is restoring Thorn Street, in the area between the buildings of Howard Hanna and One Thorn Place. On completion of the restoration, the 8 parking spaces will be located, as well as the removal of 3 parking spaces on Walnut Street for the loading zone requirement of the Theater.

The Borough Manager indicated that the Council Meeting on Monday, July 18th will begin at 7:15 p.m., with an interview with Mr. Stanton for the vacant position on the Planning Commission.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Rice, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf