

BOROUGH OF SEWICKLEY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 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 7:35 p.m.), Tom DeFazio, Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, Larry Rice and Sean Figley. Mark Davison was absent due to work. The others in attendance were Jennifer Markus, Alex Lancianese, Nathan St. Germain, Craig Stevenson, Mayor Brian Jeffe, Solicitor Richard Tucker, and Borough Manager Kevin M. Flannery.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Ms. Markus and Mrs. Lancianese, of Explore Sewickley, provided an update highlighting the presentation of the design of the Welcoming Sign to be placed on Route 65 and Broad Street. The color rendering was provided as well as a presentation of the brick and stone to be used. They will be going back to the committee and refining the sign design. Upon a question of Mr. Rice, Ms. Markus indicated that after the final design is complete, they will meet with Nancy Watts, Building Official, to be sure that it meets all the Borough's codes. It will then be forwarded to the Borough Manager to discuss with PennDOT and the Borough's engineers so as not to conflict with any of the upgrades to the traffic signals on Route 65 scheduled to be worked on in 2017.

In addition, Mrs. Lancianese indicated that Village Candy is staying in business and that several businesses are relocating in town. The French restaurant, Bruneaux, will be opening in September. Crazy Mocha opened at their new space on Walnut Street on September 12th, the Howard Hanna Grand Opening is scheduled for September 21st, and the Schenley Capital Building on Walnut Street will have Grand Opening festivities on October 13th.

There was a reminder that Balance on Broad is this Saturday, September 17th, from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Classes will be taught by Yoga in Sewickley and The Studio Sewickley.

Council reviewed a request from the Quaker Valley School District to use War Memorial Park for the Quaker Valley Middle School Cross Country Team home meets. On motion of Mr. Renner, seconded by Mr. Rice, Council voted, 8-0, to approve the request.

Mr. Nathan St. Germain, of Studio St. Germain, and Craig Stevenson, of James Construction, were present to discuss architectural and engineering master planning services for the Borough of Sewickley Municipal Building. Mr. St. Germain indicated that they would like to do an energy use evaluation, look at the capitalization rate for the real estate value of the building, the sustainability levels to be achieved, and a reduction in the cost of energy for the building. Several questions were asked of Council Members. The item will be placed as part of the discussion at the Saturday, October 1st Budget Meeting.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE TWO**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC (CONTINUED)

Council reviewed a memo from Sewickley Academy, indicating that the 9th Annual Pancake Breakfast, benefitting the Edgeworth and Sewickley Police Departments and the Sewickley Fire Department, will be held on Saturday, October 22nd, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., in the Middle and Senior School Cafeteria. The cost is \$5.00 and the public is invited.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR

Mayor Jeffe complimented the Borough Manager's Office, the Public Works Department, the Police Department, Cochran Hose Company, Quaker Valley Rotary and Sewickley Kiwanis for an outstanding Harvest Festival. There were many events going on in town. The town was very much abuzz. It was a good day in Sewickley.

Mayor Jeffe advised that the Sewickley Gallery and Art Walk is on Friday, September 23rd, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., and on Saturday, September 24th, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Jeffe stated that the Sewickley Oktoberfest will be held on Friday, September 30th, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m., and on Saturday, October 1st, from 11:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the Division Street Parking Lot.

Mayor Jeffe announced that he had received a private donation, in the amount of \$20,000, for improvements at the Walnut Street Landing and Chestnut Street Boat Ramp. The money will be used for the installation of cameras and new lighting system in both areas. Additionally, he will be receiving a \$2,500 donation and will look to raise the remaining dollars to complete the project. Mayor Jeffe believes that this is an important public safety issue and with the full intent that those who wish to damage the tunnels will be caught on film and be assessed the cost of restoration.

Council President Susan Aleshire stated that the Sewickley Halloween Parade, sponsored by the Quaker Valley Rotary and the Borough of Sewickley, will be held on Saturday, October 29th, at 10:30 a.m. Halloween Trick or Treating will be held on Monday, October 31st, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Council President Aleshire stated that she has received a letter of resignation from Mark Davidson. Mark Davidson has been relocated outside of the Borough of Sewickley for his employment. Mr. Davidson thanked the Members of Council and complimented them on their work for the citizens of the Borough of Sewickley. On motion of Mr. DeFazio, seconded by Mr. Driscoll, Council voted, 8-0, to accept the resignation. Borough Manager indicated that an ad would be placed in the Sewickley Herald, seeking residents from Ward II to fill the position, with applications due by October 6th, and interviews can be scheduled for October 11th.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE THREE**

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

Council reviewed the Building Inspector's Report, indicating that 9 permits were issued, with fees of \$1,448.00 collected on \$49,800.00 worth of construction. There were 33 building inspections performed.

Council reviewed the Public Works Report for August, highlighting the cleaning and organization of materials at the Glen Mitchell Dump, continued work on MS4, cleaning and identifying catch basins in need of repair, the cleaning of a tree that fell on Backbone Road, the painting of white lines at crosswalks and parking lots, and repair of broken benches at War Memorial Park.

Council reviewed the Wastewater Treatment Plant Report for August, indicating that 21.175 million gallons of sewage were treated. In addition, 433,454 cubic feet of digester gas was used. Repairs have been completed to the bubble. Contrary to what was reported, the Borough will have an approximate \$9,000 cost for the repairs. WesTec has indicated that the total cost of the repairs will be close to \$30,000, with the Borough only responsible for \$9,000.

Council reviewed the Consulting Engineers Report, providing a progress report on the Headworks crane project and the odor issue at the 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 August, highlighting the Auditor Report on municipal pensions, a zoning issue, Wastewater Treatment Plant Litigation, and the Murrers' lawsuit regarding demolition of the house.

Council reviewed the Solicitor's Invoice in the amount of \$5,356.75.

Solicitor Tucker reviewed tax assessment appeals for settlement and discontinuance.

Council reviewed the Jordan Delinquent Real Estate Tax and Municipal Lien Claim Report of August 11, 2016, in the amount of \$4,066.80.

Solicitor advised that two of the properties have received their tax exempt status from Allegheny County. The third property, the property in front of the new theater, still has not been received. The Solicitor is to meet with Allegheny County to complete the tax exempt status.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE FOUR**

SOLICITOR'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Council reviewed a letter regarding the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty to the Department of Environmental Protection.

Solicitor Tucker presented a draft of a new ordinance for the demolition of buildings. This is to clean up language and procedures that are new and should be followed. After some discussion, Council was in agreement to place the proposed demolition procedures in an ordinance for Monday's Council Meeting for an approval date of October 17, 2016.

Solicitor reviewed a Pension Audit Compliance Letter sent to the Department of the Auditor General.

The Solicitor's Report was received and filed.

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT

The Borough Manager advised that the milling, base repair and paving of Broad Street, from Route 65 to Hill Street, was done the evening of August 29th through September 1st. This job at night reduced the Borough's cost by \$6,000. The paving turned out very well. The Borough Manager thanked the Sewickley Water Authority, especially Mark Brooks and Shayne Quinn, for being on site the four nights. The trees for Broad Street, from Beaver Street to Centennial Avenue, were planted on September 8th. The additional trees, from Centennial Avenue to Hill Street, will be planted as part of the fall tree planting. Straight Street was completed on Friday, September 9th. There are some curbing issues with that street, which the contractor has already agreed to address. This line striping of Broad Street will take place in the next several days. A final walkthrough with the contractor and engineers is scheduled for the latter part of the week of September 19th.

The Borough Manager advised that Columbia Gas has completed the sidewalk repairs on Hill Street, and they paved the road on September 6th and September 9th. The contractor for Columbia Gas was given a verbal warning, indicating that sufficient notice about the work being done was not provided to some residents.

Borough Manager indicated that since the last Council Meeting, there have been 20 requests submitted for additional pole replacements in Sewickley, but only 2 poles have been removed. The Borough Manager is to meet with Duquesne Light officials to escalate the removal of the poles.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE FIVE**

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Borough Manager advised Council that Stefanik Contractors began work on the new storm sewer going from Maple Lane, underneath the railroad tracks, to the river. They began working on the site on September 7th. Delays were attributable to Norfolk Southern Railroad and their schedules. Mr. Neff indicated that the contractor should be held responsible for any additional costs associated with the force main because of the delay with the start of the project. The Borough Manager is to review that with Stefanik Contracting. Mr. Renner requested a copy of the contract for review.

The Borough Manager advised that the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry provided a renewal for Cochran Hose Company, indicating an increase in their premium. The State Workers' Insurance Fund provides the insurance for Cochran Hose Company due to the Workers' Compensation Act - Cancer in The Occupation of Firefighter, with rates continuing to increase on an annual basis.

Council reviewed a letter to the Quaker Valley Council of Governments, indicating the Borough's acceptance of the Waste Management Garbage and Recycling Bid, as approved by Council at its August 15th Council Meeting. Residents in the Borough of Sewickley will pay the same rates in 2017 as in 2016.

Council reviewed an announcement from the President of the Quaker Valley Council of Governments, announcing that Susan Hockenberry has accepted the position of Executive Director of the Local Government Academy.

Council reviewed the following Budget Schedule, as approved by Council:

Mon., Sept. 19 - 6:00 pm to 7:20 pm	Capital Requests from Department Heads
Sat., Oct. 1 - 7:00 am	Review of 2017 Budget Expenditures, Service Levels, Capital Programs & Revenues & Public Comment Anticipated Tentative Adoption of 2017 Budget
Mon., Oct. 17 - 7:30 pm	Review of Proposed 2017 Budget & Public Comment
Tues., Nov. 15 - 7:30 pm	Review of Proposed 2017 Budget & Public Comment
Mon., Nov. 21 - 7:30 pm	Scheduled Adoption of 2017 Budget

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE SIX**

BOROUGH MANAGER'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Council reviewed the following:

2016 State Aid Unit Values - The Pennsylvania State Aid Program has announced that the 2016 State Aid Union Value is \$4,374.65. This represents an 11.6% increase from the 2015 value of \$3,920.83. It is anticipated that the Borough will receive their check in October. As a reminder, each non-uniform participant certified on the Form AG-385 is worth 1 unit, while each uniform participant certified on the form is worth 2 units.

2017 Minimum Municipal Pension Obligation, as prepared by Hallett Associates - These are the 2017 required amounts to be deposited into each pension fund, which usually occurs in October. There is a state allocation provided, but it is not equivalent to the required amount of money to be deposited. The MMO will be approved at the September 19th Council Meeting, and may be amended any time prior to the passage of the 2017 Municipal Budget.

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Police	\$180,683	\$176,326	\$206,061	\$163,494
General	\$257,528	\$270,930	\$290,026	\$251,073
Total	\$438,211	\$447,256	\$496,087	\$414,567

Council reviewed a letter from the Jaguar Club of Pittsburgh in appreciation of holding their event in Sewickley. They also requested having their event in Sewickley again in 2017. Council was inclined to place the matter on the agenda for Monday. Mr. Rice indicated that he didn't think the Jaguar Club had a sufficient number of automobiles to use Broad Street.

Council reviewed a letter from the Borough to Laurel Green Medical, LLC, indicating the zoning designation as a pharmacy, and Council was provided a copy of Senate Bill No. 3 requirements for medical marijuana in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Council reviewed the 2nd Quarter of 2016 Verizon Franchise Fee Report in the amount of \$6,752.76.

The Borough Manager advised that the Planning Commission and Tree Commission have voted to approve the calendar. It will be on Council's September 19th Agenda for the final approval.

The Borough Manager advised that he will be attending the International City Managers Conference in Kansas City from September 24th through September 28th.

The Borough Manager's Report was received and filed.

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016
PAGE SEVEN**

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Mr. Rice, the Committee of the Whole Meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin M. Flannery
Borough Manager/Secretary

KMF:pmf