

MINUTES OF MEETING
OF SEWICKLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL MUNICIPAL BUILDING
SEWICKLEY, PENNSYLVANIA
March 12, 2019

EXECUTIVE SESSION, 18:30

Prior to the normally scheduled Council Meeting, an employee legal issue was discussed with council. In attendance were: Christine Allen, John Dunn, Sean Figley, Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, Larry Rice, Michelle Denk, Richard Tucker (Solicitor) and Mayor Brian Jeffe. Invited participants were A. Catherine McLaughlin, Attorney from Thomas, Thomas & Hafer; and John L. McConaha, Risk Manager for MRM Trust.

1. MEETING OPENING, 19:00

Item 1. A. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

President Jeff Neff opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 1. D. Roll Call

Present: Christine Allen, Michelle Denk, John Dunn, Sean Figley, Jeff Neff, Todd Renner, Larry Rice; Hendrik van der Vaart and Cynthia Mullins were both on vacation. Mayor Brian Jeffe and Solicitor Richard Tucker were on the dais.

2. Unfinished Business (none)

3. New Business (none)

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, 19:05

ITEM 4. A. Approval of Council Minutes

The minutes of February 12, 2019 were approved on a motion by Renner, second by Denk, and a unanimous vote. Rice abstained due to absence from the February meeting.

The minutes of the special meeting of March 5, 2019 were approved on a motion by Dunn, second by Figley, and a unanimous vote. Rice abstained due to absence from the March meeting.

5. COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT/MEMBERS/MAYOR, 19:10

ITEM 5. A. Mayor Brian Jeffe

Mayor Jeffe commented on the success of the recent Brave American Classic 5K run.

ITEM 5. B. Council President Jeff Neff

Council President Neff introduced the new assistant Borough Manager, Erin Sakalick.

6. STATEMENT OF CITIZENS, 19:15

ITEM 6. E. Business Privilege Tax

A lengthy discussion about the Business Privilege Tax. Many local business owners and concerned citizens spoke about issues they have with the way in which this was done.

There were complaints about the handling of the communication by turnKey Taxes and Mark Schuster, owner. There were concerns about failure to notify the owners, penalties, interest, etc. An hour discussion culminated with Mr. Schuster agreeing to work with the individual business owners to determine the full extent of charges.

ITEM 6. A. Explore Sewickley

A brief report concerning the Piano in Wolcott Park initiative, with more to come next month. Notification to the Borough that Explore Sewickley will not be hosting the Explore Sewickley 5K-run this year.

ITEM 6. B. Chamber of Commerce

[NO REPORT]

ITEM 6. C. Marc Schwalb of Schooley Mitchell

Reported on communications saving his company has provided to the Borough. He is working now with the Police Department to see if saving can be found there.

ITEM 6. D. Charlie Driscoll, Village Christmas Trees

Mr. Driscoll asked for guidance with respect to possible charges for the use of the park next year. A motion by Councilperson Rice, seconded by Councilperson Dunn to accept proposed fee of \$800 for 2019 use of the park passed unanimously.

ITEM 6. E. Sewickley Garden Club Council

Natalie Mueller discussed the cost of May Mart and the return of the funds to the Borough and requested two banners to advertise May Mart and House tour. A motion by Councilperson Dunn, seconded by Councilperson Denk to allow the banners passed unanimously.

7. CONSENT AGENDA, 21:10

ITEM 7. A. General Fund and Sewer Fund Budget Reports

ITEM 7. B. General Fund /Sewer Fund

ITEM 7. C. Statement of all Funds

ITEM 7. D. Labor and Vendor Report

ITEM 7. E. Legal Expenses Monthly Review

ITEM 7. F. Building Inspector's Report

ITEM 7. G. Public Works Report

ITEM 7. H. Wastewater Treatment Plant Report

ITEM 7. I. Police Report

ITEM 7. J. Cochran Hose Company Report

ITEM 7. K. Civil Service Commission Report

ITEM 7. L. Historic Review Commission

ITEM 7. M. Planning Commission Report

ITEM 7. N. Shade Tree Commission Report

ITEM 7. O. Zoning Hearing Board Report

ITEM 7. P. Approval of Consent Agenda

A motion by Councilperson Renner, seconded by Councilperson Rice to accept the consent agenda passed unanimously.

8. BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT, 21:15

The following reports were reviewed:

A. 2019 Road Project Report

- B. 2019 DCED Municipal Statistics Filing
- C. FNB Monthly Pension Report
- D. Franchise Fee Payments
- E. Fuel Price Report
- F. "Savvy Citizen" Report
- G. EPD Invoices
- H. QVRA 9th Annual Family 5K (On a motion by Denk, second by Allen, passed)
- I. Partial Payment from Cochran Hose to CR4
- J. Right to Know – Aleppo Township
- K. Sprott lot consolidation. 20:10

Rickard Tucker conducted a public hearing: Susan Kaminsky (443 Maple Lane, Edgeworth) spoke in favor of the lot consolidation. There were no opponents. After the hearing was closed, motion to adopt Resolution 2019-007 by Councilperson Figley, seconded by Councilperson Rice was unanimously approved for the lot consolidation.

- L. Minas, LLC lot consolidation, 20:15

Richard Tucker conducted a public hearing: John Edson, Stan Southern, and Elizabeth Abbott spoke in favor of the lot consolidation. Sandra Martin and Barbara Cox spoke in opposition. After the hearing was closed, motion to adopt Resolution 2019-008 by Councilperson Renner died for the lack of a second.

9. SOLICITOR'S REPORT, 21:35

- A. Solicitor's Report
- B. Solicitor's Invoice
- C. Zoning Hearing Board Appeals
- D. Real Estate Tax Assessments Appeals
- E. Sheriff's Sale 929 Crescent
- F. Earned Income Tax Delinquent Tax Collection

G. Parking Ordinance

This will require further review and Tucker will bring the final suggested version to council next month. Several councilpersons commented on various aspects such as spaces, fines, collection, etc. A short discussion ensued.

H. Division of Elections Tax Collector Election Issue

Richard Tucker indicated that there had been some discussion as to whether Mr. Munn had to run again in 2019. After investigation it was identified that he will be up for re-election in 2021.

10. TAX COLLECTOR REPORTS, 21:50

A. Real Estate Tax Collector report

a. A motion by Councilperson Renner, seconded by Councilperson Allen to accept and file the report passed unanimously.

B. Earned Income Tax Collector's report

a. A motion to accept and file the Allegheny North Tax Collection Committee Tax Collection report was made by Councilperson Allen, seconded by Councilperson Figley and unanimously approved.

C. Jordan Tax Service Delinquent Real Estate Tax Reports

D. Recapitulation of Real Estate Taxes for 2019

11. Executive Session (This was held prior to the Council Meeting, see minutes above.)

12. Correspondence

Jeff Neff introduced Chad O'Donnell new operator of the Waste Water Treatment Plant and asked for council approval to hire a temporary worker to assist Chad. A motion to accept this request was made by Councilperson Renner, seconded by Councilperson Allen and was unanimously approved.

13. Adjournment, 22:10

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilperson Rice, seconded by Councilperson Dunn and unanimously approved.