

NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

Supervisor's Meeting

April 2, 2024

The regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors, held at 233 Miller Road, was called to order by Chairman Martin Bonzo at 6:30 p.m. Present were Supervisors Mike Phipps, Fritz Retsch, and Steve Spade.

Absent: Vice-Chairman Doug Martin

Also, present were Manager Ronald Leindecker, Treasurer Nicole Liston, Secretary Lawrie Borgman, Police Chief Gregory Carney, Road Foreman R.J. Kraus, Township Engineer Josh Callendar, Township Solicitor Alexis Wheeler, Jen Fessler, Albert Horn, Duane Rape, Dave Bauman, Brian Perry, Jim Hendrickson, Tricia Barker, Patti Gerhard, Dan Plunkett, Larry Hough, Virginia Smith, Albert Kries Jr, Tammy Ranalli, Brett Schultz, Craig Liston, Laura Dengel, and Vince Rose

- | | | |
|----|---|--|
| 1 | CALL TO ORDER | The Pledge was recited and the meeting was called to order. Chairman Bonzo announced the presence of security cameras in the building. Chairman Bonzo announced an executive session was held after the agenda meeting on March 26 th for legal matters involving the township. |
| 2 | AMENDMENT TO AGENDA | None. |
| 3 | MINUTES | Motion by Phipps to accept the March 5, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor. |
| 4 | BILLS | Motion by Retsch to approve the bills to be paid from the general and stormwater accounts as submitted, with the signing of the checks following the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor. |
| 5a | PUBLIC COMMENT
LAURA DENGEL | Expressed concern over agenda, right-to-know requests, the township website, residents' concerns regarding the township, and the Municipal Authority contracting with West View Water. |
| | ALBERT HORN | Stated he had not heard concerns from other residents. |
| | VIRGINIA SMITH | Expressed concern over speaking out at meetings. |
| 5b | PUBLIC COMMENT ON
MS4
LAURA DENGEL | Expressed concern over the need for stream base stabilization, money spent on MS4 projects, and water runoff at Freedom Dollar General site. |
| | CRAIG LISTON | Stated he feels the MS4 projects are working and the Board is doing a good job. |
| | MIKE PHIPPS | Stated the MS4 project at Green Valley Park has improved the flooding problem and although MS4 is not popular, it is helping the residents. |
| | MARTIN BONZO | Stated the MS4 funding has allowed the township to do extra projects to help the residents. |

FRITZ RETSCH Stated in the plan in which he lives, the retention ponds were changed to detention ponds and they no longer have problems.

MIKE PHIPPS Supervisor Phipps asked that Albert Horn explain the measures Freedom Dollar General is taking to keep the stormwater on their property.

Albert Horn explained any development has to retain the water on their property.

Jen Fessler stated Planning made additional requests of Freedom Dollar General because of the current stormwater issue in the area. They agreed to redirect the stormwater into a different storm drain.

STEVE SPADE Asked for confirmation that Freedom Dollar General is in compliance before the construction phase begins.

Manager Leindecker stated they are and the Beaver County Conservation District is following the project.

PATTY GERHARD She asked for confirmation of the location of the Freedom Dollar General.

LAURA DENGEL Feels if more information were on the website, it would eliminate questions.

6a **TREASURER REPORT** The Treasurer's report was submitted.

6b **FY 2023 STATE & LOCAL CYBERSECURITY GRANT PROGRAM** Chairman Bonzo stated he received an email regarding a cybersecurity grant. Manager Leindecker asked the township IT consultant his opinion on the grant. The township is currently doing Phase 1; however, Phases 2 and 3 would benefit the township. The grant is \$10,000 and is 100% funded. The application was due on April 1st and will need to be ratified.

Motion by Retsch to ratify the application submission for the FY2023 State and Local Cybersecurity Grant program, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

7a **POLICE MONTHLY REPORT** The monthly report was submitted. Chief Carney stated an officer was attacked by a dog while on duty and has returned to work. Officer Brown is still off but is working to return. Officer Jones will be recognized by the County Commissioners on April 30th at 11:00 a.m.

7b **POLICE APPROVAL TO HIRE HUNTER BOCK & NATHAN COONFARE** Motion by Retsch to hire Hunter Bock and Nathan Coonfare on a part-time basis and at the successful completion of field training be promoted to full-time, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

7c **POLICE SPONSOR NATHAN COONFARE FOR POLICE ACADEMY** Motion by Phipps to sponsor Nathan Coonfare for the Police Academy, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

Supervisor Retsch asked if there would be an agreement that he would have to stay with the township for a period of time. Chief Carney stated the solicitor is working on an agreement.

**7d BIG KNOB AND PINE RUN
FIRE DEPARTMENTS**

The monthly reports were submitted.

Jim Hendrickson stated the two fire departments put in an application for a joint grant worth \$290,000 for breathing apparatuses. He also wanted to commend the members for the amount of training they have been doing. He stated the township is very lucky to have the firefighters trained at such a high level.

Chairman Bonzo stated he applauds the departments for their work.

Brian Perry stated the Big Knob addition should be complete in 4-6 weeks.

Supervisor Retsch complimented them on the beautiful building.

**8a ROADS
MONTHLY REPORT**

The Road Department monthly report was submitted.

Chairman Bonzo thanked the Road Department for their efforts in keeping the drains cleaned during the storm.

**8b APPROVAL TO ACCEPT
THE BID FOR LIQUID
ASPHALTS AND RENTAL
EQUIPMENT**

Motion by Phipps to approve the 2024 contracts with Youngblood Paving for Liquid Asphalts and Rental Equipment, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

**9a ENGINEER
MONTHLY REPORT**

The monthly report was submitted.

Engineer Josh Callendar stated there are a few minor punch list items remaining at the Willowmere MS4 project.

Supervisor Spade asked if they had put together the calculations of the stormwater projects at Meadowcrest Development and how it would affect the township. Mr. Callendar stated they are working on the calculation and hope to submit it to the manager next week.

10 SOLICITOR

Solicitor Wheeler submitted her report to the supervisors.

Supervisor Spade asked if she had worked on invocation before township meetings. Solicitor Wheeler stated she agreed with the former solicitor and submitted a memo to the manager at the end of the day.

**11aa PLANNING
2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

Chairman Bonzo stated the Planning Commission submitted their 2023 Annual Report.

- 11ab PLANNING MCKINNEY-LEWIS LOT CONSOLIDATION** Motion by Retsch to approve the McKinney-Lewis Lot Consolidation plan pending comments from the county and a notation of "clean and green" added to the Plan, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- 11ac PLANNING ACCESSORY STRUCTURES/SHIPPING CONTAINERS** Chairman Bonzo stated the Planning Commission has tabled discussions on accessory structures and shipping containers.
- 11ad COMPREHENSIVE PLAN** Supervisor Spade stated he had submitted his comments in the afternoon and would like any motion to be contingent on corrections being made.
- Supervisor Phipps stated he had found a few minor errors. He commended the Planning Commission on a well-done plan and thanked them for their efforts.
- Motion by Phipps to forward the proposed Comprehensive Plan to Beaver County Planning, all adjoining municipalities, and Freedom Area School District for comment, contingent upon outstanding corrections being made, seconded by Spade. Vote of 4-0 in favor.
- Chairman Bonzo thanked the Planning Commission for their hard work and efforts with the Plan while still completing all of their other work. He stated there is a tremendous amount of information and feels the Plan will help the community.
- Jen Fessler thanked the supervisors for taking the time to review the Plan for errors.
- 11ae APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE AND HOLD PUBLIC HEARING FOR MEADOWCREST DEVELOPMENT** Motion by Phipps to advertise and hold a public hearing for Meadowcrest Development on Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at the township building, seconded by Retsch.
- Supervisor Retsch questioned if only township residents could attend.
- Solicitor Wheeler stated those outside the township could attend. Public comment can be limited to residents of the township.
- Laura Dengel stated she feels a larger space is needed.
- Chairman Bonzo stated he feels the hearing can be held at the township building.
- The vote was taken. 4-0 in favor.
- Albert Horn asked that final approval include the waterline and roads be up to township specs. Solicitor Wheeler confirmed all will be inspected to ensure township standards and a maintenance bond will be issued as well.
- 11b RECREATION BOARD** Dave Bauman stated they are holding a clean-up day at the park. A Flea Market will be held on May 11th.

- 11 c BUILDING & ZONING MONTHLY REPORTS** The Building and Zoning monthly reports were submitted.
- 11 d ZONING HEARING** A Zoning Hearing was held on March 26th for 751 Glen Eden Road. The variance for the addition was granted.
- 13 BOARD COMMENTS** Supervisor Retsch thanked everyone for their efforts with the Comprehensive Plan. He stated he enjoyed reading the history of New Sewickley.
- PUBLIC COMMENT VINCE ROSE** Mr. Rose was late for the meeting and wanted to express his concerns over the MS4 fee and the water increase.
- 14 ADJOURNMENT** Motion by Retsch to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lawrie J. Borgman
Secretary