

# NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

## Supervisor's Meeting

July 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, Township Engineer Josh Callendar, Township Solicitor Alexis Wheeler, Jen Fessler, David Bauman, Jim Hendrickson, Tricia Barker, Patti Gerhard, Dan Plunkett, Lisa Lewis, Amanda Peterson, Lou Delebosich, Larry Hough, Albert Horn, Dan Swartz, Mike Loschinsky, Laura Dengel, Charles Veloski, Karen Veloski, Samantha Vinson, Ethan Fuchs, and Timothy Sovich

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|----|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1  | <b>CALL TO ORDER</b>                  | The Pledge was recited and the meeting was called to order. Chairman Bonzo announced the presence of security cameras in the building.   |
| 2  | <b>AMENDMENT TO AGENDA</b>            | None. Chairman Bonzo stated that 7b was added after the agenda meeting.  |
| 3  | <b>MINUTES</b>                        | Motion by Phipps to approve the June 4, 2024 meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.   |
| 4  | <b>BILLS</b>                          | 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 | <b>PUBLIC COMMENT<br/>LARRY HOUGH</b> | Requested the status of the ongoing noise problem. Solicitor Wheeler stated the muffler installation began and she will be notified when the installation is complete.   |
|    | <b>LAURA DENGEL</b>                   | Requested the status of the cell tower appeal, asked what procedures the township has in place for a shelter-in-place order, and stated Zeliénople changed their PRD ordinance before a development came in.<br><br>Chief Carney stated the shelter-in-place notification would come from the 911 center and they would put something on Facebook and the website. |
| 5b | <b>PUBLIC COMMENT ON MS4</b>          | None.  |
| 6a | <b>TREASURER REPORT</b>               | The Treasurer's report was submitted.  |
| 6b | <b>WORKSHOP AUGUST 13, 2024</b>       | Chairman Bonzo stated a workshop was requested for August 13 <sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to discuss firefighter and senior property owner tax reduction, emergency management coordinator response plan, administrative capital improvement plan, and fiscal procedures.  |

Supervisor Phipps asked for an explanation of the emergency management response plan. Chief Carney explained that all municipalities are required to have a coordinator. New Sewickley needs to update the procedures in its plan. Supervisor Spade requested copies of the plan.

**7a POLICE  
MONTHLY REPORT**

The monthly report was submitted.

**7b POLICE  
ADD FOP LODGE #4  
REPRESENTATION TO  
POLICE BARGAINING  
UNIT**

Manager Leindecker explained that the Police Department belongs to the FOP and if they add them as a representative to their bargaining unit, they will receive additional benefits for the officers.

Motion by Phipps to approve the Police Department adding FOP Lodge #4 as representation to their bargaining unit, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

**7c RETIREMENT  
RECOGNITION OF  
OFFICER KEITH HABURJAK  
AND CANINE OFFICER  
BENY**

Chief Carney presented Officer Keith Haburjak and Canine Officer Beny with plaques and medals in recognition of their retirement.

Chairman Bonzo thanked the officers on behalf of New Sewickley Township and the Board of Supervisors.

Supervisor Retsch thanked Officer Haburjak and his family for taking such good care of Beny.

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

The monthly reports were submitted.

Jim Hendrickson stated June was a busy month for the Pine Run station. They had water training that both departments participated in.

Chairman Bonzo thanked the departments for their community service at the Burry Church slip and slide.

**8a ROADS  
MONTHLY REPORT**

The Road Department monthly report was submitted.

**8b ROADS  
ACCEPT BEAVER COUNTY  
COG BIDS**

Motion by Spade to accept the Beaver County COG spring and winter commodities bids, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor.

**9 ENGINEER  
MONTHLY REPORT**

The monthly report was submitted.

Supervisor Spade requested that LSSE look into the MS4 new permit cycle and if the township is eligible for an exemption.

Chairman Bonzo requested a public meeting regarding MS4 at the September workshop. Manager Leindecker will work with LSSE to set up the training.

- 10 SOLICITOR** Solicitor Wheeler provided the supervisors with her monthly report.
- Solicitor Wheeler stated she made several attempts to the court inquiring if the public would be permitted at oral arguments on July 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Verizon appeal and had not heard back. She doesn't expect to receive a decision until the fall.
- 11a PLANNING** Nothing new to report. The Commission is continuing training and discussion of current topics and reviewing code.
- 11b PLANNING  
REVIEW PRD ORDINANCE** Chairman Bonzo stated after a lengthy discussion at the agenda meeting, the majority of the supervisors feel the township has a good PRD ordinance and does not want to change it at this time. He stated if any of the supervisors would like to ask questions regarding the ordinance they can attend a Planning meeting with their questions.
- 11c RECREATION BOARD** The monthly report was submitted. Mike Loschinsky reviewed the events at Green Valley Park.
- Manager Leindecker stated the Road Department power washed the benches and exercise stations around the walking trail.
- Chairman Bonzo thanked Robie Barkley for the great upkeep at the park and also the Recreation Board for their work. He stated he only hears good comments regarding the park.
- 11d RECREATION BOARD  
APPROVE THE PROPOSAL  
FOR UPPER PARK  
PAVILIONS** Supervisor Spade requested the pavilion project at the upper park be tabled until after the capital improvement project discussion during the workshop. Mike Loschinsky stated they will lose Pavilion 1 if the repair doesn't take place. Manager Leindecker stated the workshop is for the 2025 plan and the pavilions were part of the budget in the 2024 plan. Supervisor Spade stated he would like to see the plan for the upper park before the repairs. Chairman Bonzo stated the township needs to maintain what it currently owns. Mike Loschinsky stated they need a comprehensive plan for the park so they have a direction for the future of the park. Supervisor Retsch asked for confirmation the project was budgeted for 2024. Manager Leindecker confirmed it was. Manager Leindecker stated he reached out to many contractors and only received two bids.
- Motion by Phipps to approve the proposal for Wengerd Roofing for \$18,200 for the upper park pavilions, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 3-1 in favor. Spade voted no.
- 11e BUILDING & ZONING  
MONTHLY REPORTS** The Building and Code monthly reports were submitted.
- Discussion occurred on the ongoing cistern issue. Manager Leindecker stated LSSE did pro bono work at the cemetery and the pins will be placed soon. Discussion occurred regarding the ongoing issues at the neighboring property. Supervisor Retsch requested Solicitor Wheeler go to see the cemetery.
- 12 BOARD COMMENTS**

Supervisor Retsch thanked Patti Gerhard for the interesting articles she provided the supervisors.

Chairman Bonzo stated there is a problem with EMS response, but is not sure what can be done to resolve the issue.

Laura Dengel asked what the process of the Public Hearing for the Comprehensive Plan was. Solicitor Wheeler stated there will be a presentation and a comment period. A court recorder would also be present.

Supervisor Spade requested looking into equipment to utilize the projector and also a conference phone with a speaker for the meeting room. Manager Leindecker will begin that process for the 2025 budget.

Supervisor Spade stated he would like the supervisors to begin discussions on the EMS problem and try to come up with solutions. He suggested writing the representatives and talking to the school and neighboring communities. Chief Carney stated there is a lack of EMS in the county daily and if it wasn't for the township fire departments it would be a struggle to receive EMS services.

Supervisor Spade stated with the upcoming July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday he would like to encourage everyone to read the Declaration of Independence and encouraged going further to read the rough drafts to see what they went through to come up with the final document.

**13            ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Retsch to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 4-0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lawrie J. Borgman  
Secretary