

NEW SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP

Supervisor's Meeting

September 3, 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 Vice-Chairman Doug Martin, Supervisors Mike Phipps, Fritz Retsch, and Steve Spade.

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, Jennifer Ryan Fitzpatrick, Albert Horn, David Bauman, Jessica Powers, Jim Hendrickson, Dan Plunkett, Patti Gerhard, Amanda Peterson, Steven Joy, Nadine Berber, Don Berber, Larry Hough, and Laura Dengel

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| 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. It was announced that executive sessions were held following the August 6 th meeting for personnel matters and following the August 27 th meeting for MS4 and personnel matters. |
| 2 | AMENDMENT TO AGENDA | None. |
| 3 | MINUTES | Motion by Spade to approve the August 6 th meeting minutes as submitted, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor. |
| 4 | BILLS | Motion by Phipps 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 Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor. |
| 5a | PUBLIC COMMENT
JENNIFER FITZPATRICK | Expressed concern over bus safety on Freedom Road. |
| | LARRY HOUGH | Requested Solicitor Wheeler review the noise report he sent to the manager.

He stated the waterline extension project is progressing well. The contractor requested an additional month for completion, which pushes completion to October. |
| | LAURA DENGEL | Thanked the supervisors for consideration of invocation prior to meetings (6H), questioned why a letter was being sent to Cranberry Township (9c), and asked the supervisors to rescind their vote on the Comprehensive Plan. |
| 5b | PUBLIC COMMENT ON MS4 | None. |
| 6a | TREASURER REPORT | The Treasurer's report was submitted. |
| 6b-g | ADOPT RESOLUTIONS
#11-24, 12-24, 13-24, 14-24, 15-24, AND 16-24 | Vice-Chairman Martin suggested treating the multiple resolutions being considered for adoption as an omnibus motion. The supervisors agreed. He also expressed concern over the resolutions including a match. |

Motion by Martin to adopt agenda items 6b-g excluding the 20% matching funds, seconded by Spade.

Discussion continued and a vote was taken. Vote of 2-3. Motion failed. Retsch, Phipps, and Bonzo voted no.

Motion by Phipps to adopt agenda items 6b-g, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 3-2 in favor. Motion passed. Spade and Martin voted no.

The Resolutions are as follows:

#11-24 – New MACK Granite 42, dump body, and snow maintenance equipment \$172,882.40 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$43,220.60. Total cost \$216,103.

#12-24 – Installation of a concrete floor and heating system in the new road department building \$244,000 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$61,000. Total cost \$305,000.

#13-24 – Salt shed \$92,796 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$23,199. Total cost \$115,995.

#14-24 – Rosco Brush Broom \$71,044.80 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$17,761.20. Total cost \$88,806.

#15-24 - Resurfacing Green Valley Park walking trail \$124,720 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$31,180. Total cost \$155,900.

#16-24 – Installation of two generators \$44,924.86 grant funded with a 20% township match of \$11,231.22. Total cost \$56,156.08.

6h ADOPT RESOLUTION #17-24- INVOCATION BEFORE EACH REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOS

Albert Horn questioned if there would be a policy in place for invocation prior to meetings. Solicitor Wheeler confirmed it is part of the Resolution.

Supervisor Retsch expressed concern regarding prayer prior to meetings based on past experience on another board.

Supervisor Spade stated although they may face opposition, it doesn't have to force them to stop the practice. He stated support from the residents has to have some weight.

Motion by Retsch to adopt Resolution #17-24, seconded by Martin. Vote of 5-0 in favor.

7a POLICE MONTHLY REPORT

The monthly report was submitted. Chairman Bonzo thanked the police for their continued diligence on school bus safety.

- 7b POLICE**
ADOPT ORDINANCE #237-
RESTRICTING TRAFFIC
FLOW ON HARVEY
AVENUE
- Motion by Martin to approve the advertising of Ordinance #237, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 7c POLICE**
APPROVE TOWNSHIP
TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT
- Motion by Martin to approve the township Trick or Treat on October 31st from 6-8 PM, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 7d POLICE**
TRICK OR TREAT TRAIL
- Motion by Martin to approve Trick or Treat Trail on October 26th from 5-7 PM, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 7e POLICE**
ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF
GRANT CROSKEY
- Motion by Martin to accept the resignation of Grant Croskey, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 7f POLICE**
ACCEPT RETIREMENT OF
TIMOTHY GATEHOUSE
- Motion by Martin to accept the retirement of Timothy Gatehouse, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor. Vice-Chairman Martin stated he wishes Mr. Gatehouse well.
- 7g POLICE**
APPROVE HIRING
PROCESS FOR ONE FULL-
TIME OFFICER
- Motion by Martin to approve the hiring process of one full-time officer, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 7h BIG KNOB AND PINE RUN**
FIRE DEPARTMENTS
- The monthly reports were submitted.
- Steven Joy stated the coverage for the fair went well.
- Jim Hendrickson stated they have three or four members looking to attend EMT training. In the past, they have provided funding for the members to attend the training, but with the significant cost increase, he is uncertain if they will be able to continue to do so.
- Vice-Chairman Martin thanked the fire and police departments for working at the fair and commended their efforts.
- 8a ROAD DEPARTMENT**
- The monthly report was submitted. Road Foreman Kraus stated they are continuing to work on storm damage to roads. Chairman Bonzo thank them for their efforts. Supervisor Phipps commended the Road Department for a job well done at Mellon and Wall streets. Supervisor Spade asked to see the road rating report when it is completed by LSSE.
- 9a ENGINEER**
MONTHLY REPORT
- The monthly report was submitted.

- 9b ENGINEER
MS4 ANNUAL TRAINING** Josh Callendar provided the Board of Supervisors with the required annual MS4 training. Supervisor Spade requested LSSE to inquire if New Sewickley Township would qualify for an exemption from the next permit period.
- 9c ENGINEER
APPROVE LETTER TO
CRANBERRY TOWNSHIP** Motion by Phipps to approve sending a letter on behalf of the Board of Supervisors to Cranberry Township requesting to be part of the Cranberry Sewage Plan, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 10 SOLICITOR** Solicitor Wheeler provided the supervisors with her monthly report.
- 11a PLANNING** Al Horn stated he does not have anything new to report and they are continuing to work on projects.
- 11b RECREATION BOARD** The monthly report was submitted.
- 11c RECREATION BOARD
ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF
MICHAEL LOSCHINSKEY** Motion by Retsch to accept the resignation of Michael Loschinskey from the Recreation Board, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 11d RECREATION BOARD
APPROVE ADVERTISING
FOR ONE NEW MEMBER** Motion by Phipps to approve advertising for one member for the Recreation Board on the township website and social media page, seconded by Retsch. Vote of 5-0 in favor.
- 11e BUILDING & ZONING
MONTHLY REPORTS** The building and code monthly reports were submitted.
- 11f ZONING HEARING** Two Zoning Hearings were held on August 28th. The request from 121 Climo Lane was granted. The request from 215 Hillside Avenue was denied.
- 11g ZONING HEARING** A Zoning Hearing will be held on September 25th for 548 Zeigler Road.
- 12 BOARD COMMENTS** Supervisor Retsch expressed concern over the continued bus safety issue and stated he watched a report on national television about the problem. He also commended the PTA parents and children for working at the Grange concession stand to raise money for the school.
- 13 ADJOURNMENT** Motion by Martin to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Phipps. Vote of 5-0 in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully,

Lawrie J. Borgman
Secretary