

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
SEWICKLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL
MUNICIPAL BUILDING
SEWICKLEY, PENNSYLVANIA**

OCTOBER 8, 2019

The meeting of the Borough Council was called to order at 7 p.m. by Council President Jeff Neff presiding and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call showed the following members present:

Larry Rice	John Dunn	Sean Finley	Cynthia Mullins
Todd Renner	Jeff Neff	Christine Allen	Hendrick van der Vaart
Michelle Denk			

Also present were Mayor Brian Jeffe, Borough Solicitor Richard Tucker, Borough Manager Marla Marcinko and Assistant Manager Erin Sakalik.

Public Hearing

Solicitor Tucker described the process for the public hearing to consider approval of the land development application submitted by the Sewickley Car Store. Jack Scholl with Environmental Planning & Design, on behalf of the applicant, commented that the Planning Commission has issued conditional approval and a dimensional variance was obtained from the Zoning Hearing Board. Discussion about the project ensued. President Neff requested that the Borough ensure stormwater requirements have been reviewed by Harshman CE Group.

A motion was made by Ms. Allen, second by Mr. van der Vaart to approve the land development application of the Sewickley Car Store, contingent upon approval of final drawings. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Comments from Mayor/Council President

Mayor Jeffe extended thanks to Explore Sewickley on the success of the Art & Music Festival.

Mayor Jeffe commented that three police patrol officers have been removed from probationary status and have been moved to second-year positions.

Presentation

Bob Kluz, Scott Zahner and Graeme Purcell with the Sewickley Kiwanis Club addressed Council on the success of the Harvest Festival event, which they hosted. They thanked the Borough for its support with the event. To show their appreciation for the Borough resources, they presented a check to the Borough in the amount of \$1,000.

Public Comment:

Mary Pat Blaylock addressed Council as a member of the Grapevine Garden Club, which cares for the Walnut Street parklet. They would like to set up a table in the parklet during the weekends of October 26 and November 6, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. to sell poinsettias for a fundraiser.

A motion to approve the request was made by Mr. Figley, second by Ms. Denk. All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried.

Mary Floro, 713 Centennial, addressed Council regarding her concerns that “people” on Council are inappropriately directing Code Enforcement Officers. She claimed that her father is a target and she believes there are others being targeted. President Neff requested that Ms. Floro provide more detailed information. Ms. Marcinko commented that Council members, as residents of the Borough, have the ability and right to report concerns to Borough staff and she assured Ms. Floro that staff endeavors to ensure that all concerns and requests for service are handled the same for all complainants.

Sam Cappezutto addressed Council on behalf of the Fern Hollow Nature Center. She is seeking the Borough’s continued financial support through its Municipal Partnership Program. She described the FHNC’s mission, programs and activities.

Del Miller, as Chairperson of the Sewickley Parking Authority, addressed Council regarding the proposed paving of Duquesne Way. He will provide Council an update, via email, on proposed changes to paid parking regulations. He stated that the objective of the changes are dispersion, to create more parking opportunities for visitors to the business district. They are proposing a 3-hour limit for Zone 1 and increasing the hourly rate to \$1.00 for Zone 2, unlimited. They are also proposing Saturday enforcement. Mr. van der Vaart questioned the status of “white listing” and Mr. Renner questioned the principal on the remaining debt. Mr. Miller responded that the balance on the debt is approximately \$280,000.

New Business

A motion was made by Ms. Mullins, seconded by Mr. Figley, to approve the minutes from the September 10 Council meeting. Mr. Tucker commented that the action on the ordinance to name the unnamed alley should be changed to “authorizing the advertisement”, not “adoption.” Ms. Denk abstained. Motion carried 8-0, with one abstention.

A motion was made by Ms. Allen, seconded by Mr. van der Vaart, to approve the closure of Bank Street for the school Halloween Parade, October 31, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Figley, seconded by Ms. Allen, approving the street closures for Light Up Night. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Allen, seconded by Mr. Figley, approving the date change for the Brave American Classic to March 21, 2020, to include a street closure for Frederick Street. Mr. Rice inquired about fees to be imposed for support services. Mayor Jeffe commented that this is one of the most well-organized and implemented events held in the Borough. Motion carried 9-0.

Financial Reports

A motion was made by Ms. Mullins, seconded by Mr. Figley, to accept the financial reports, which included the following:

- Statement of Revenue/Expense Compared to Budget for General Fund
- Statement of Revenue/Expense Compared to Budget for Sewer Fund
- Balance Sheet General Fund
- Balance Sheet Sewer Fund

events, particularly Public Works and specifically Franco Verbene. She also thanked administrative staff, the Mayor's office and Police Department. Ms. Denk inquired as to how Council can support increased collaboration between SVCC and Explore Sewickley. Ms. Kaufmann replied that it would be helpful for all to remain "in their own lane" for the last quarter of 2019.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor Dick Tucker provided his report, invoice, Jordan Tax Service report and report on tax assessment appeals. Mr. Rice inquired as to the status of the Investment Policy Statement. Mr. Tucker reported that the complaint against Sewickley Acquisitions has been withdrawn.

Discussion Items and Announcements

Ms. Marcinko reported that the Borough is awaiting the response from the property owners at 36 Beaver Street regarding storm water runoff concerns at 26 Beaver Street.

President Neff reported that Richard Webb has resigned from his position on the Board of Directors of the Sewickley Parking Authority. Mr. Del Miller has been elected Chairperson and Sandra Marr Vice Chairperson.

Chief Manko commented on the traffic and speed monitoring data for Centennial Ave. Average speed is 18.2 mph. The average daily traffic volume southbound is approximately 9,000 vehicles per day and 10,000 per day southbound. The data will be distributed to Council.

Mr. Renner inquired as to whether a price was provided by LSSE to perform the required engineering study to determine whether a stop sign is warranted at Centennial and Grimes. Ms. Marcinko stated that she did not obtain a cost estimate.

Ms. Marcinko reported that QVCOG has submitted pre-applications for CDBG funding, on behalf of the Borough, to Allegheny County Department of Economic Development for the installation of handicap curb ramps on Centennial at Grimes and Backbone and Blackburn. Handicap curb ramps must be installed in order to paint crosswalks at those intersections.

Following discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Mullins, seconded by Mr. van der Vaart, to defer the costs of the engineering study based upon the results of the traffic monitoring data obtained by the Sewickley Police Department and apply those monies to future improvements of the intersection. Motion carried 8-0, with Ms. Allen voting against the motion.

Mr. van der Vaart reported that turnKey Taxes has issued 21 letters to businesses which have failed to pay delinquent business privilege tax. 19 of these accounts are in litigation and 2 accounts have been resolved. Mr. van der Vaart will provide updated data to Council and stated that he will be in contact with turnKey regarding next steps.

Mayor Jeffe shared a copy of the new resident packet prepared by Erin Huber, Administrative Assistant. He commended Ms. Huber on her work.

President Neff commented on the status of the Act 537 Plan update being prepared by Dan Slagle, Nichols-Slagle Engineering for the decommissioning of the Borough's wastewater treatment plant and proposed sewage conveyance to Leetsdale Borough Municipal Authority for treatment. President Neff stated that Council must make a decision relative to the financing options in order for the Plan preparation to continue. Ms. Marcinko commented on the complexity of the issue and long-term implications for the community and the need to have a

clear understanding of the proposal and more time is needed for additional discussion and analysis.

Mr. Kuzma, Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Leetsdale Borough Municipal Authority, thanked the Borough for considering this opportunity.

Executive Session

The meeting recessed at 9:35 p.m. and Council went into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Council came out of Executive Session at 10:25 p.m. and the meeting was reconvened.

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Figley, to authorize the execution of the settlement agreement with A. Liberoni and authorize issuance of payment in accordance with the terms of the Agreement. Motion carried 9-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Figley, seconded by Mr. Renner, to notify the Allegheny County Health Department of the Borough's intent to appeal the Notice of Violation, issued by the Allegheny County Health Department, and intent to seek a conference with the Department. Motion carried 9-0.

On motion of Ms. Allen, second by Mr. Renner, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



MARLA P. MARCINKO
Borough Manager, Secretary



JEFF NEFF
President of Council