

REGULAR MEETING October 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the North Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 7:00 P. M. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 893 Mercer Road, Beaver Falls. In attendance were Supervisors Emmett Santillo, John Axtell, Thom Portman, Solicitor Ryan Long, Engineer, Emily Palmer, Lisa Crespo, Jamie Wolf, Police Chief, Jeff Becze, Road Foreman, Wayne Young and various members of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Emmett Santillo, followed by the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Emmett Santillo	Here
John Axtell	Here
Thom Portman	Here

SUPERVISOR STATEMENT:

Emmett Santillo addressed the public with the following: Before we have public speak, just like I had done in the past since we have to address concerns on that social media page where we've been blocked. There's an issue out there recently about North Sewickley Township. (Emmet read post about property taxes being high but only for some). The reason Emmett is addressing it is because the particular individual that put this on there. I spoke with the individual over a year ago about the issue that they have. Emmett would like Ryan to do some research. There are 2 administrators allowing this information out there. I understand as a public official, you can make whatever comments about us. But the fact of the matter is, we have people here in the office that process this, that are employees. And this is blatantly not true that we aren't turning in. So far today, we have had 45 permits to date for building and demolition to different changes. A monthly report goes to the assessment office, and they record it. Is there maybe somebody out there that's building something? There was an individual that didn't get a building permit and that person has sited twice now because they decided to build porches, they were found to be building and they were sited. Again, we don't hold anything. Emmett would like it researched that when somebody's putting information out there that's clearly, they should do some research on there before they allow something to be put on their site. They are allowing public people to read, that they have absolutely no fact on. Ryan will do some research on this. The next one, a candidate put on there: (Emmett read the post about Shawn Plassmeyer and the school board regarding the Chief of Police). First of all, Emmett wanted to know if the Supervisors know Shawn and if he would consider Shawn their best friends. Yes, they know him and no he is not their best friends. To make a statement like that it's just another blatant lie but when you don't know anything that's going on, it's easy to put stuff like this out there. Emmett apologized to Chief Becze because he going to be replaced, the individual wants him replaced. The last thing: Emmett informed the public that he went to the last school board meeting for a reason. Not for or against the mask mandate, we need to follow the law. Here in North Sewickley, if the state says we are going to wear masks, we are going to wear the masks. We are going to follow the rule, I am not going to put our subsidy dollars or put anyone at risk, we're going to follow what we're supposed to be doing and that's what I said at the school Board meeting. Now there was a comment put out there about our Chief, I don't mind if you put all the information out there but if you only put it out there to make a person look bad. The Chief did have a conversation with a woman with 2 young children. She came in with an exemption. The chief said to her she has to wear a mask. That's why they had it set up that you could watch it on video. But he compromised with her, she wore a mask, her children did not and she thanked him. That wasn't put in there, just to make him look bad and that bothers me. There's only one other person that gave him trouble with masks. So, all I'm saying is, let's get the right information out there. And if it was not a problem, they certainly would not have blocked the Township.

PUBLIC SPEAK:

Roger Zallon – Update the Supervisor’s on a Planning Commission issue. He informed the public about the Road bonds regarding planning meeting questions. The contractor will be responsible for the bond, financially. He will be responsible for the road financially if there is damage. Cost of the bond is around \$10/1,000 ft of road, its inexpensive. Emmett updated the public on the logging that the planning department has been researching and we want to make sure the roads aren’t being destroyed and also that we don’t want this to be a financial hardship.

Gary Hummel – Gary wanted to comment on the Chairs opening statement. We follow the guidance of the Governor and that’s what we do here. Gary applauds that and it makes life so simple. Gary informed the Supervisors that he owns the Mercer Mini Mart, and he plans on applying for a permit for beer and wine. Jamie and Lisa are aware what’s going, he has communicated with Eric as well. The dilemma is as follows: he started at the state level. There is a restriction on the books from 1947 that the Township is dry. We did research and can’t find the records. However, in 1993, there was a beer distributor there. He wants to put everyone on notice that this is what he is attempting to do and if there was a beer distributor, he will probably be communicating with Ryan Long at some time. A referendum was mentioned but he wants to know why he would do that if we can’t find any restrictions. Ryan stated that unless the Township has elected not to be a dry Township. Gary is respectfully requesting this to be done in 30 days. Ryan stated he doesn’t not think that will happen. We haven’t found any ordinances, however the state has us identified as prohibiting the sale. Ryan is concerned that we won’t be able to uncover any records demonstrating how or why this individual was able to own, operate and run a distributor. Gary stated the converse would be true to say that there is nothing prohibiting him from doing this. Ryan said that is not his call to make, the Liquor Control Board does. In order for them to issue a license, they are going to want to be satisfied and that will be Gary’s problem, not the Township’s. Ryan stated he should let the LCB know that there was a distributor there and if they can’t find anything stating that, then Gary may have to get the votes from the public. Giant Eagle in Franklin Township just did that. Ryan would like to discuss this outside of the public record.

Justin Dougherty – Wanted to follow up on the internet and utility situation in the Township. Ryan update Jason that the Township is looking in to contributing funds. They are willing to consider it and the Township also shows a willingness. Ryan will reach out to him as well and he is going to perform a cost analysis. Location of where the internet is coming from is important. They came from 588 last time when there is access from Gillen. Based on Jason’s prior 2012 costs, it seems very possible to get this resolved. Emily updated Jason that the sewer and water is not feasible as it stands now. If they develop Fox Run Golf course, that may be his best opportunity to get utilities out there.

Carissa Neary – Carissa wanted to know what the status of the Leech Ln repair is. She was updated that we had a meeting with PennDOT and we talked about a plan to do work for the state to offset costs. Emmett would like Emily to check in to the cost of paying for PennDOT to do the repair, so we are not indebted to the State for years. We are going to get construction fencing or a temporary repair to protect the area from anyone getting injured.

Tom Roush - Tom Roush has a couple things. One, the 2009 Peterbilt. Wayne Young, Road Foreman, stated that we have had some issues with it, he feels it is time to replace it. Tom mentioned the exhaust system being replaced a few years ago and that is quite a large amount of money to sell it. Emmet, we sold that truck and thank you for bringing it up. Wayne Young let him know we sold it for about 55% of the cost of the new one. Tom wanted to know what issues it was having. The other question is with 288 being closed and the excessive traffic on some of the side roads, more specifically Chapel Drive being a 10-ton weight limit road. There are a lot of heavy trucks on that road. It’s a good money make for the Township, is there a way we can partrol it. Police Chief, Jeff Becze informed Mr. Roush that he doesn’t have weigh masters. Tom let them know that the school bus stops are difficult for large trucks to stop and can be dangerous. The Township has ordered bus stop signs. Tom is concerned about the safety issue.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Federal Emergency Management Agency – Notice to Flood Insurance Rate Map User, Corrections Made
Commonwealth of PA – Department of Auditor General – Liquid Fuels Audit – Jan 1, 2019 – Dec 31, 2020
Beaver County Conservation District – Earth Disturbance Complaint Investigation
Beaver County Reassessment Program Notice – Tyler Technologies, Inc & Beaver County
BHE GT&S – Eastern Gas Transmission & Storage – Renewal Application
PA Department of Transportation – Notice of Estimated Allocation of Liquid Fuels - \$213,818.45
Leymarie Clark Long, P.C. – Letter Regarding Internet Service
Beaver County Auxillary Appeal Board – Notice to Appear
Beaver County Conservation District – Notice of Termination Approval Letter

MINUTES:

Emmett Santillo made the motion to accept the minutes as written of the Regular Meeting of September 21, 2021. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.

REPORTS:

A. Financial Report as of October 2021

Current General Fund Balance \$1,035,001.36

Liquid Fuels Balance \$239,577.04

****Emmett Santillo wanted to let the public know that comments about the Township being bankrupt, 8 years ago the Township had about \$65,000 in reserves and today we have over \$1,000,000 so we are not bankrupt.**

B. Permit Report September 2021

2 Permits issued – 1 – 28x30 garage, 1 – parking lot and alterations for residential care facility

**** Emmett Santillo: What happens after the building permits are issued? Lisa – The Township prepares a report that gets sent to the County and they are current up to the month.**

C. Police Report/ACO Report September 2021

Criminal Activity, Part I Offenses - 4, Part II Offences - 23, Police Service Activity - 89, Citations-moving - 11, Citations-non-moving - 5 and Ordinance Violations -0. Total Miles driven 3,158 - fuel consumed 277.9 gal. Animal Control Report- 2 incidents handled. Submitted by Chief Becze.

D. Road Report September 2021

Cut trees back on Collins Rd. and started cutting back on Gillen. Bermed Foster with reclaim, fixed mailbox approaches and driveways with blacktop. Replaced 200' of rusted out steel pipe on Orchard Crest Dr. and replaced grates on 2 catch basins. Replaced 2 cross drains on Wildwood Rd. and added 1 catch basin. Cleaned and polished the Peterbilt, cleaned frame and wheel and painted them. Used 315 gallons of Diesel fuel and 62.4 gallons of gasoline. Report presented by Wayne Young, Road Foreman.

****Emmett Santillo – We do have a little bit of fun; Emmett presented the Road Department with a Sales Team of the Month award for the sale of the 2009 Peterbilt. Emmett let the public know that we have a strategic plan to replace equipment and we have people watching all departments. Congratulations Mr. Young on your achievement.**

E. Engineer Report

The monthly Engineer's Report was presented by Emily Palmer. Emily presented an update on the road improvements project. A pay request has been submitted for the work, but Emily wants Wayne to confirm quantities before recommending payment to Youngblood. Emily informed the Supervisors there is a grant opportunity out there for Storm, Sewer and Water projects. Emily is going to try to make the Bologne Valley bridge project fit in to this category, but she isn't sure it will work that way. **Emmett Santillo made the motion to adopt the sewage facilities planning module by resolution number 10122021 to amend the act 537 Plan pending the applicant addressing the comments in the DEP letter dated 9/30/21. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**

F. Ryan Long- Solicitor Report

None – informed the Supervisors he is corresponding with Emily and Lisa on various items as previously discussed in the meeting.

ACTION ON BILLS:

Emmett Santillo made the motion to accept the bills as presented in the amount of \$108,244.42. John Axtell seconded. All in Favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **Motion by Emmett Santillo approve the purchase of the traffic light cameras for the Spotlight 88 intersection for the Police Department. Seconded by Thom Portman. All in favor.** Discussion on total cost and recurring annual fees. \$12,108 to purchase with a \$5,000 County contribution and \$4,400.00 annual fees for the entire set up.
- B. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to increase the clean-up day passes to \$20.00 per load up to 3 loads per resident. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.** Discussion on the 2021 estimated Township financial loss of \$8,791.60.
- C. Discussion on the updates to the Police Department, we are waiting on one more quote to conform with the legal bidding requirements. Tabled until next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the Consent to purchase parcel 70-103-0211.001 from Repository of Unsold Properties. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.** It was explained that this will enable the property to be put back on the tax records for the Township and exonerate all delinquent back taxes.
- B. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the resignation on Salvador Zepeda, police department. John Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**
- C. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to reappoint Herrmann and Loll, CPA as Township Auditor in the amount of \$2,850.00. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**
- D. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the part time hire of Malynda Garcia, police department. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**
- E. Kroll Subdivision was previous approved in the Engineer section.
- F. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the Police Department and the Road Department negotiations of the 3-year contracts 2022-2024 and to authorize the responsible agent to execute the contract. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.** Ryan Long will provide the completed contracts in the near future.
- G. Discussion on the involvement of the Engineer and the subdivision review fees involved. As Ryan suggested, Emily researched to SALDO to see if there is a provision for fees. This is something we already have in our ordinances, and we can use discretion per situation to charge the fees. There is no need to make any motions, we are just going to begin implementing the ordinance.
- H. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the budget meeting date of 10/19/2021 at 7:00 pm. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor**
- I. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve the sale of the Dump Truck in the amount of \$70,200. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Zallon thanked the Supervisors for the streetlight on Edgewood and Gillen. Emmett informed the public of the grant money that was applied for with the streetlights and we worked with the tax collector. The upgrades to LED's cut the bill in half. Because we were able to see that savings, we have the money there. Emmett is happy we finally have it done. Jamie Wolf let the Supervisors know that since they lost our stuff, they are waiving the fees for the lights.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:58 pm Emmett Santillo made a motion to adjourn. Thom Portman seconded the motion. All in favor.

Jamie Wolf

BUDGET MEETING October 19, 2021

The budget meeting of the North Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 7:00 P. M. in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 893 Mercer Road, Beaver Falls. In attendance were Supervisors Emmett Santillo, John Axtell, Thom Portman, Lisa Crespo via telephone, and Jamie Wolf.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Emmett Santillo, followed by the salute to the flag.

ROLL CALL:

Emmett Santillo	Here
John Axtell	Here
Thom Portman	Here

PUBLIC SPEAK: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

MINUTES:

Emmett Santillo made the motion to accept the minutes as written of the Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021. Thom Portman seconded, all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Motion by Emmett Santillo to approve Berkheimer Local Tax Resolution to assign the administrative staff, Lisa Crespo permissions to request information regarding tax collections for North Sewickley Township. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**
- B. Motion by Emmett Santillo to close North Sewickley Township administrative offices on November 2, 2021, for Election Day. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.** Office staff will post this on our door and our website.

2022 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS:

Presentation and review of the proposed 2022 Budget. The general fund revenues for the 2022 budget will be \$1,323,767.00 and the expenses \$1,396,595.00. Total revenues, including special funds: \$2,175,575.45 and expenses, \$2,173,810.45. This includes a \$75,000.00 supplement from the General Fund leaving a surplus for the year of \$1,765.00. There will be no new taxes generated for 2022, no tax rate increase to residents. Emmett asked if there are any questions regarding the proposed budget. **Emmett Santillo made the motion to approve the 2022 draft budget. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.** Emmett wanted to address that we are bringing things up to speed from the past when it comes to the capital improvements. The building has become a nice workplace for employees when it used to be run down and we are saving the building.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:15 pm Emmett Santillo made a motion to adjourn. John Axtell seconded, all in favor.