

REGULAR MEETING July 13, 2021

The regular meeting of the North Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Tuesday, July 13, 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, Patrolman, Daniel Frederick, 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 statement:

“I want to thank the residents of North Sewickley that came out and actually got to see that we are on FB live, this wasn’t due to a candidate, this is something we have been working on. I am happy we are able to do that. I have some points of clarification, there’s a social media site that is out there, a resident says: (reads aloud) Hello neighbors, just checking to see if anyone else is aware that you’re allowed to do basically anything you want here. You don’t need permits, you don’t inspections for anything including tapping in to water lines, draining pipes, rerouting anywhere you want even on to others properties. I wouldn’t of believed it myself but it has been verified by Township officials numerous times.” That is not true. So that is not true, I cannot repeat it enough, it is not true. And again, it’s amazing that some of the stuff is on there then an Administrator wrote on there: “Oh, yes, there are many complaints happening that many are getting fined. Share your inconsistent concern with the Supervisor’s, please attend a meeting where the Solicitor will be attending.” So, if you have an issue with the Township, you don’t need to only address it on the night of the meeting, you can contact the Township at 724-843-5826, that’s 724-843-5826 anytime, we have an answering machine instead of waiting for the meeting, you can certainly have it addressed ahead of time. If you want to come to the meeting, we absolutely appreciate that. But that is not correct, the other thing is...the monies applied for and thank you to our team John, Thom, Lisa, Jamie, Ryan, we applied for the money and thank you Jamie, the application that was received. We actually tried to apply a day early, everybody worked on it, we applied for the money. And again, the phone number could have been called, instead of putting something out there negative that we didn’t do what we were supposed to do, we have done that. Also, the other thing and thank you Mr. Kirkham, you mentioned about quads on the roads, it is not legal to ride quads on Township roads or riding them on State roads that run through the Township.

Understanding that somebody, and I have our police officer here, that sometimes a person may be crossing over their property and crossing over the road, but the riding down the road, we may not catch somebody but if we do catch the person, they are going to be sited. That’s the reality, the police are called, we are going to go out and check on it. Please don’t have it out there that somebody is telling you it’s legal, it is not. If somebody calls, I left my phone number 412-327-2160, I’ve had a few phone calls from people. They have been all positive, but I do have to address a couple things. Mr. Morrow, you’re sitting back there, I have a question for you: Did I mock anybody at the last meeting? Scott Morrow: not that I am aware of. Emmett: and again, it’s on FB, you can listen to it. Was I rude? Scott Morrow: Not that I am aware of. Emmett: thank you, I am just asking the reason why I am saying that is because I certainly wasn’t. If you look up the definition of “mock”: to tease or laugh at somebody. I certainly wasn’t laughing at the last meeting, and I certainly wasn’t teasing anybody. What I did was, is really try to dispel some of the issues that are outright lies. That certainly insight people and if people need to

insight people to get comments on social media, then shame on them. There was a comment on that site from Plassmeyer Towing about the gentleman helped someone, they thanked them. That was taken down. Positive comments should be on sites as well. Not everybody is doing things bad around the Township and we're here to try to make sure that we are helping people. The last thing I want to mention that was put out on the site; I need to mention this because it is so ridiculous for some of you who know. My Christmas display....um, Lisa, Jamie, have you paid for any Christmas lights for me for my display? No...where was I on Christmas Eve when you guys were looking for me? Jamie: at the store: Emmett: buying Christmas lights. It's so ridiculous that somebody would put a statement out there and comment out there like I'm doing something underhanded. All the money, meaning every penny that I am collecting, it goes to the women's center of Beaver County. And I should say every year that I have been able to give, from everyone of you that have driven by my house and given donations and some of you that I've seen at my house that say how much you enjoy it. I appreciate the donations and every penny of your money has gone to the women's center. I was honored as the citizen of the year, which I appreciate, and I do it because I'm doing it for people to enjoy. That's why I do it and to listen to some of this negative non-sense and that's exactly what I would call that. I said it last time at the meeting, there are cowards behind keyboards that instead of coming to my face, have a conversation, I have no problem with that whatsoever. So, somebody is going to hand me the clipboard because the next thing we are going to do is have our public speak."

PUBLIC SPEAK:

Tim Davenport – 220 Foster Rd – Checking on the cornhole tournaments, questioning whether they are legal. They have bands, PA systems blasting around. Ryan reported to have the code enforcement office go out to see what ordinances would address that. Tim reported they are selling food and t-shirts. Ryan, we will want code enforcement office to speak with Mr. Davenport. We will get phone number and reach out to follow up. Bill Morton also was there for the same issue.

Mike Safreed – 100 Little League Dr – Mike wanted to thank the Board. We are now the new inhabitants of the house on Little League Dr. There is a culvert or drain covering. A drainpipe goes under the road. 25' further on Douglass, there is an empty hole. His concern is safety for walkers and dogs on Douglass. Wayne reported it is on his list and he would be working on it once the summer road program. Mr. Safreed would like to get it covered. Unusual things happen and doesn't want anyone to fall in the hole.

Tami Ray – 445 Glendale – Read devotional aloud: wisdom against strength. Discussed prior's meetings discussions and explained her position on meeting with staff. Tami is unaware why Emmett feels attacked and she agrees there are keyboard warriors. Tami asked to stop being mocked and chastised for doing what she was told to do. She asked the meeting notes she sent to Jamie and Lisa to be revised and she would give to the end of the month for Lisa and Jamie's comments. Question to Ryan Long, residents are afraid of retaliation. Are you a lawyer for the residents...Ryan stated for the Township. Ryan stated that suggesting being a liaison for the community and the Supervisor's is a bit bold. The Supervisor's meet here, Emmett's offered his telephone number, we don't need a middle person. Those complaints can be made anonymously and if any allegations appear to be legitimate, they will be reviewed by the Supervisors and the Solicitor. Ryan has been Solicitor since 2015 and he has never seen the retaliation that Tami is concerned with. There are other alternatives on retaliations, they can be made to the state as well. The Township doesn't require a liaison or a middle person. Come to the Township and make the complaint. Emmett stated that Mrs. Ray has called him over the years, I talked to her multiple times, we are well over the four minutes. Emmett addressed her allegation of him being rude and he pointed out individuals relatively impartial and somebody that has come to as many meetings as you have, and I have been doing this for 24 years. Just because I am elected into a position doesn't mean it gives you the right to abuse me, I have a right to defend myself and the actions this Board does. Because when somebody puts something out there that is a little misleading, like when someone posted that the Township had to borrow money to make our payroll. This Board didn't have that happen, this was allowed on that site, instead of making a phone call to find out, let's just put that out there and let it run like fire. Any resident that calls, I will answer the

questions. If we have an issue, we've addressed it. There was a resident at the last meeting, he had a concern, I went to his home. I don't appreciate with someone puts half truth out there. My son, who doesn't live in the state of PA, hear about the nonsense and commented. He was mocked and attacked, he finally said he wasn't going to put up with it. The reality is this, we're here to run your Township, this is a business. We're going to take care of the roads; the police are going to make sure you're safe. We're going to have issues; do we make mistakes? We're human but I'm telling you, we are doing our best to do the right thing and that we make everybody in the community happy. Every resident should be entitled to six hours of time, if you're only going to put out part of the information you got, it's going to cause a little bit of a problem. You can make anything look good or bad, I just want something being fair and balanced. I'm going to tell you something right now, in front of these people as witnesses, if you think you're going to abuse me, I'm sorry, that's not going to happen. Tami: I'm not going to abuse you; I have every certain right to share any unpleasant... Ryan: Ms. Ray, your Facebook site had a post which made direct the inference and implication that Township money was utilized to purchase LED lights for Mr. Santillo's Christmas display. That's defamatory, that's published on your website. Tami: I didn't see that; do you have a date? Ryan: I believe it was election day. Tami is going to look it up.

Brad Kirkham – Country Club Dr – Discussion on social media and the keyboard warriors. Brad is mostly on for FB marketplace, and he doesn't belong to the North Sewickley Neighbors and only posts when he sees "BS". He has been seeing more quads and side by sides. Then he sees about enforcement on quads. One post caught his attention directly addressed to Brad. (Read aloud) They contacted North Sewickley and the Magistrate, and it is completely legal. Patrolman Daniel Frederick asked if the police were call. Officer Frederick addressed the room about not being able to chase for safety purposes. After discussion, Brad asked if what was discussed last meeting is crap? He also asked if it is legal, and the answer is no. Brad would like to know why our police department is saying it is legal? Police Chief, Jeff Becze, is not at the meeting this evening and he was on duty for the initial conversation. Emmett stated that he would have it addressed, and it is not legal to ride on the roads. If someone is riding on the road, call the police so we can catch them. They are not allowed to ride them on the road. Plates and insurance cover them on the trails, not the road.

Caitie Chinchilla – 1035 Edgewood Rd – Flooding problem from the farm behind their property. Discussed the situation and prior owner installing drains that haven't fixed it. Mrs. Chinchilla was presented two scenarios. She is here to aske the Township to assist in the communications with the property owner and if the farm would be willing to help with the problem. Ryan asked Wayne if he has checked with the farmer about it. Lisa asked for the information on the quotes to work on the information for her. Lisa will get her phone number and reach out. Ryan stated we don't have the Authority to force them to do anything, but we can try to open that conversation.

Angela Brobeck – 1557 Edgewood – She apologized for causing any problems. Her family member is a magistrate in Beaver, she is an air force veteran, and it was told to her if she is coming to and from an area, it is legal to ride. Back roads are owned by North Sewickley, and you aren't required to hold to PA laws. She didn't mean to upset anybody or cause any problems. She has 3 children and wouldn't let her children ride them. Her ask is to reconsider letting quad riding in North Sewickley since they don't have to abide by PA law. She is asking to consider this; she can come up with a list of people that can safely sign. Apologized again and was not nasty. Emmett commented that it sounds great, but we already have an issue, she would be respectful but everyone else will not. Someone will end up getting killed. Emmett has a big concern, he's not saying it isn't insured, it is not a regular motor vehicle, he would prefer them not being on the road. We get phone calls every single day about people on quads. The issue is, they are crossing people's property. Emmett respects her position but he personally, we have enough issues, it would end up causing big issues. Ryan: He appreciated where the officer was coming from earlier and needing to exercise discretion under certain circumstances. There needs to be a policy so that the officers recognize what to do, when to do it and how to do it.

Justin Dougherty – 108 Tulip Tree Lane – Discussed internet and utility access. He brought it up in 2012 and he met with a few people to get everything signed. He still doesn't not have internet access. Emmett stated he was at the meeting in 2012. Emmett asked Lisa and Jamie to reach out to Armstrong to see what we need to do. Jason had reached out to Emmett and got no response; he was someone that posted on FB but not maliciously. He just said this happened and he didn't get a response back. He has not access to internet and kids are expected to work from home. Emmett apologized for not responding and said after the meeting, he will make sure he has Jason's

number. Emmett stated that he was not the individual he had reference earlier in the meeting. We will work on that to see how we can facilitate that. Emily Palmer updated on Sewer and answered the 10-year plan to get everyone connected in the Township. Emmett explained the cost effectiveness of picking up all residents for public sewage.

Gemma Henry – 124 Jackson Dr – Attended to talk about her sewer bill amount. It jumped from 4,000 to 6,000 and she was here to tell us she can't believe it. She hasn't made any changes, no pool, no garden. Her average is usually 3,000 - 4,000 gallons. Lisa reported that she saw the post, so we did a few comparisons from June 2020 to June 2021, and everything is comparable. Lisa informed her that the Sewer/Water meeting is Thursday. Lisa pulled accounts that were showing higher than posted. One of the best things to do is to call the office. The guys can come out if we are called so we can look at it. She asked if there was a charge, Lisa responded no there is no charge. Lisa will get a phone number after the meeting to get something set up to check it out.

Stephanie McQuiston – Gillen Road – Discussion on the quads on the roads. They would trailer their quads and her youngest son did get in trouble last year and he was at fault. She found property on Gillen. People are making comments about riding on Gillen. None of us have problems with people riding, they don't live on Gillen to see what she sees every day. They do have a problem when they are flying down the street, they are scaring people, they aren't driving safely. She is not the only one that feels that way. There's a big difference between someone going 25mph vs. 60mph. Ryan: public comments should be addressed to the Board. Emmett would like the comments from the post on FB.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

None

CORRESPONDENCE:

Kawneer – Downstream notification of aggregate aboveground storage capacity greater than 21,000

PSATS – Conference cancellation and refunds – no conference in 2021

Shell Pipeline Company – Safety message and public awareness

USDA – National Rabies Management Program (NRMP)

Leymarie Clark Long, PC – Auditor's Letter

PAMA – Thank you letter and Annual Conference Notification – August 8 – 11

Beaver County Assessment Office – 2022 Assessment Roll Notification

Municipal Benefits Services – 2020 Short Term Disability Dividend Check (\$0)

MINUTES:

Emmett Santillo made the motion to accept the minutes as written of the Regular Meeting of June 8, 2021. John Axtell seconded. All in favor.

REPORTS:

A. Financial Report as of July 2021

Current General Fund Balance \$1,333,477.85

Liquid Fuels Balance \$250,895.98

B. Permit Report June 2021

3 Permits issued – 1 – alternation of roof and porch, 1 – 4" split rail fence, 1 – steel building on cement slab

C. Police Report/ACO Report June 2021

Criminal Activity, Part I Offenses - 5, Part II Offences - 9, Police Service Activity - 99, Citations-moving - 12, Citations-non-moving - 5 and Ordinance Violations -0. Total Miles driven 4,533 - fuel consumed 318.4 gal. Animal Control Report- 2 incidents handled. Submitted by Chief Becze.

D. Road Report June 2021

Mowed back various intersections in the Township, trimmed various Township Road trees. Fixed washout on Collins Rd and patched potholes on Collins. Paved more ditches on Rustic Park and Foster, graded ditches on Foster. Replaced a cross drain on Rustic Park Rd and put in 2 catch basins, one on the inlet side and one for a clean out for our cross drain between our cross drain and the one Meyer's put in. Put in a new cross drain and catch basin by James Dr crossing Rustic Park to an existing ditch that another drain runs in to. Dug out and black topped a ditch on James Dr that runs in to the new catch basin on Rustic Park. Cut down various trees on Township Roads. Used 454 gallons of Diesel fuel and 52 gallons of gasoline. Report presented by Wayne Young, Road Foreman.

E. Engineer Report

The monthly Engineer's Report was presented by Emily Palmer. Emily reported that LSSE is coordinating with the Solicitor on the Connoquenessing Country Club/MacMurdo documents. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to authorize LSSE to issue the notice to proceed on the mill and overlay of Foster Road and the 12 streets to be tarred and chipped. Thom Portman seconded. All in Favor.** Emily reported that she will follow up with PennDOT on the Leech Lane issue. Emily reported on the O'Hare subdivision, drainage on Glendale and LSSE being named in a settlement case on Sunset.

F. Ryan Long- Solicitor Report

None

ACTION ON BILLS:

Emmett Santillo made the motion to accept the bills as presented in the amount of \$103,600.32. John Axtell seconded. All in Favor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- A. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to accept the bid amount of \$20,550.00 for the Township load that was placed on MunicBid. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**
- B. Discussion on the resident concern of the light on Edgewood and Gillen from the last meeting. Wayne went out to locate the light and could not find it where it was supposed to be. Emmett recalls this being a past issue as well. **Motion by Emmett Santillo to work with Penn Power to get a light installed at the corner of Edgewood and Gillen, at the expense of the Township. Thom Portman seconded. All in favor.**

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Lisa presented the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 letter and stated we are in receipt of the funds. We will get a separate account opened to move the funds from the general account.
- B. Presented was the audited financial report for 2020 and the accompanying Auditor letters.
- C. Emmet Santillo made the motion to approve the quote presented from Sitler and Lemmon for the installation of all 4 furnaces in the Township building in the amount of \$9,525.00. Discussion on the age and condition of all the furnaces. John Axtell seconded. All in favor.
- D. Emmett Santillo set August 17, 2021, at 7:00 pm as the first budget meeting date. John Axtell seconded. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ron Blake – wanted to know when we would be doing the Bologne Valley Bridge. It is too late for construction this year, but it is something we could get started on the permitting.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:08 pm Emmett Santillo made a motion to adjourn. John Axtell seconded the motion. All in favor.

Jamie Wolf