

**SEWICKLEY HILLS BOROUGH**  
**Tuesday January 13, 2015 General Council Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Phillips called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:50 p.m. at the Sewickley Hills Borough Municipal/Recreational Building, located at 349 Magee Road, Sewickley, PA 15143-9117.

PRESENT: Cindy Phillips, Jack Faulkner, Randy Newman, Chris Cox, Natasha Brandenburg, Mayor Malarik, NIRA Engineer, Emile Ketterer, Solicitor Art Leonard, Wayne Hyjek, and Secretary Diana Steele.

CITIZENS ATTENDED: Craig Rowland, Joe Hajnas, Jr., Joe Hajnas, Chief Micklos, Lucy Guttendorf, Don Fogel, and Terry Jackovic

NEW BUSINESS: Mrs. Phillips asks if anyone has anything to add to the agenda, no one speaks. Mrs. Phillips states there is a guest in attendance tonight and asks him to speak first.

**Terry Jackovic of 1011 Glenfield Road:** Mr. Jackovic states he is the owner, with his business partner, of the property at 1011 Glenfield Road. He had an architect draw a set of plans for renovations to the property, soon realizing that there were set-back regulations and the need for a variance. He has been informed, since he does not receive mail at that address, there is unpaid Quaker Valley School taxes, Borough taxes, and water bill to Aleppo Water Authority. He will contact Ms. Steele this week to get the addresses of the billing agencies and bring those accounts up to date. Mr. Jackovic and his business partner are going to revisit the space and make a determination whether to renovate or demo the building and will report back to Council with their decision. Atty. Leonard states the owners have 30 days to make a decision.

Atty. Leonard states the property has been inspected by the Code Enforcement Officer on October 30, 2014 and has been determined to be in violation of Zoning Ordinance Section 4.14, Maintenance of Yards, and Section 13.5, Abandonment. Further, according to the International Construction Code the owner is responsible for the building being in "safe" condition, or to repair the buildings, the alternative being demolition, which is the responsibility of the owner of the property.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Mrs. Phillips asks for approval of the minutes from the December 9, 2014 meeting, stating that the Ordinance # has to be included for the tax rate of 2015.

**MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Faulkner to accept the minutes with the inclusion of the Ordinance # 3 of 2014, of December 9, 2014 seconded by Mr. Cox, with all in favor; Mrs. Brandenburg abstains as she was not present on 12/9/2014.**

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Hyjek reports the following bank balances as of December 31, 2014:

PNC General Account =	\$15,365.00
FNB General Account =	\$319,340.00
Sanitary Account =	\$48,588.00
Accounts Receivable =	\$21,132.00

Mr. Hyjek reports that the borough collected \$788.00 interest in 2014 on the checking accounts. Reporting additionally that the December final report show the Borough in good shape financially.

The sanitary sewer bills were mailed at the end of December for the first quarter of 2015.

POLICE REPORT: Mayor Malarik reports there were 14 calls in November, all minor calls. He asks Chief Micklos for his opinion. Chief Micklos reports there have been burglaries in neighboring communities. There have been reports of a green Chevy Cavalier with two white males that may be suspects. He reports further that Allegheny County stated they are going to begin work on Glenfield Road in the spring but for now the cones will remain at the wall along the creek that has deteriorated.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: **Fardo Plan:** Mrs. Ketterer begins her report stating that she has received and is reviewing the Fardo Property plan for the next Planning Commission meeting.

**Woods:** Mrs. Ketterer states that she has no response from the owners of the home at 185 Sweetwater regarding the posts to their shed have been installed in the stormwater channel. Also, there is no information regarding Mr. Pelly and the Storm Channel deficiencies.

**OTSA Sewage Collection Transfer:** Mrs. Ketterer states Bogdewic and Hopkins have not signed the easement agreements to date. Atty. Leonard states the Hopkins' have concern with the stability of the slope behind their home; they are seeking approval for the borough to be responsible for the main sanitary sewer line behind their home, not including the stability of their rear yard.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Atty. Leonard states he has nothing to report other than what he previously stated re: Hopkins easement agreement.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

**Emergency Center:** Ms. Steele states the Borough Council asked her to contact the Allegheny County Department of Emergency Services regarding using the Borough building as an emergency shelter; if the building is used as a shelter the Red Cross needs to be contacted as they provide cots, blankets and food. The Borough should have available a seating area, T.V., coffee, soft drinks and games. If the building is used only as a "Warming Center", no food is necessary. The Red Cross contacts are Sandy Wraith – 412.302.4809 or Grant Wilson at [grant.wilson@redcross.org](mailto:grant.wilson@redcross.org). The contact at Allegheny County is Steve Wilhelm at 412.473.2550.

Mr. Faulkner will look into the cost of a generator and Mr. Rowland offered to gather information and asked if there are matching funds available. Mrs. Phillips asked Ms. Steele to look into funding or grants that may be available. Mayor Malarik stated the cost of a generator would probably be in the \$15,000 to \$20,000 range.

Mrs. Phillips states there are a lot of elderly residents in the Borough that would be inconvenienced in the event of a long term power outage. Mr. Rowland asks if a survey could be distributed to the residents to ask for their input, and Mrs. Phillips states that a survey of this nature could be included in the newsletter that Mrs. Brandenburg is working on.

**Cell Tower:** Ms. Steele reports a representative for a Cell Tower company called requesting information regarding restrictions of towers in the Borough; he was interested in the placement of one on the Borough Park property.

Atty. Leonard states that the Commercial Industrial District is the only place zoned for cell towers. There is Ordinance 1 of 2004 that addresses Cell Towers.

**Nomination Ballot:** Ms. Steele gave the Nomination Ballot to Atty. Leonard for his signature. There will be four seats open for the ballot, Mrs. Brandenburg is the only Council member whose term does not expire.

OLD BUSINESS:

**Mr. Faulkner** gives his report on the roads, stating the road work that was scheduled, planned and approved in the budget, is on track for this year.

**Mrs. Brandenburg** states the newsletter is not on track, due to problems at work.

**Mr. Newman** states he has no updates, but also states Worker's Compensation is a little high and would like to invite a representative from another provider to attend a meeting. Mrs. Phillips asks him to research other companies.

Mrs. Phillips asks Atty. Leonard since this is the first meeting of 2015 if the Council needs to approve appointments. Atty. Leonard said it is not needed.

Mrs. Phillips states that although the budget for 2015 was approved raises for Ms. Steele and Tim Fehl were not approved.

Mr. Faulkner has an issue with Mr. Fehl's wages and states that most of his \$40/hour is on doing a tour of the Borough twice a month to inspect roads, basins, drains, sewers, catch basins. Mrs. Phillips states that Mr. Fehl also cleans the catch basins. Mr. Faulkner also states that when he took a tour of the Borough with a company that cleans catch basins professionally, they stated that our catch basins didn't need to have a professional clean them. Mr. Faulkner goes on to say that Mr. Fehl takes good care of the roads and basins and for those services you couldn't hire a professional company for \$40/hour. Mr. Faulkner does not think we need to have someone checking our roads twice a month at \$40/hour.

Mayor Malarik states that Mr. Fehl does a great job and would not be replaced for \$40/hour, most contractors would charge no less than four hours minimum. Mrs. Phillips states that Mr. Fehl is a lot cheaper than paying an engineer. Ms. Steele states that he is on call for questions that come up in the Borough and most likely there will be no charge. Mrs. Phillips states that he also replaces or repairs road signs on Borough property, tree limbs that are restricting traffic views.

**MOTION: A motion is made to increase Tim Fehl's wages from \$40/hour to \$45/hour retroactive to December 1, 2015 by Mrs. Brandenburg, seconded by Mr. Cox; roll call is taken with all but Mr. Faulkner in favor.**

Mrs. Phillips states Ms. Steele's pay raise for 2015 was not approved.

**MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Cox to increase Ms. Steele's wages to \$18.00 an hour beginning January 1, 2015, seconded by Mr. Newman; roll call is taken with all in favor.**

**MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Cox to approve the bills, seconded by Mrs. Phillips; roll call is taken with all in favor.**

ADJOURNMENT:

**MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Cox to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m., seconded by Mrs. Phillips; with all in favor.**

*Respectfully submitted-Diana Steele-Secretary*