

SEWICKLEY HILLS BOROUGH
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
General Council Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Guttendorf called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:30 p.m. at the Sewickley Hills Borough Municipal/Recreational Building, located at 349 Magee Road, Sewickley, PA 15143-9117.

PRESENT: Lucille Guttendorf, Joseph H. Hajnas, Michael Lepore, Mayor Malarik, Andrew Shannon (Solicitor), Emile Ketterer (NIRA), Charlie Guttendorf (Treasurer), Diana Steele (Secretary), Cynthia Phillips

ABSENT: Jack Faulkner – via phone

CITIZENS ATTENDED: Hunter Hopkins, Chief Hanney, Don Fogel

CITIZENS & GUESTS: Mrs. Guttendorf asks if there is anything not on the agenda to be discussed, there is no response.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Mrs. Guttendorf asks if Council has reviewed January 8, 2019 meeting minutes for approval as amended.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Hajnas to approve, as amended, the meeting minutes of January 8, 2019, seconded by Mr. Lapore; motion is carried with all in favor.

POLICE REPORT: Ms. Steele reported there were only 19 calls in January, 10 were road department call outs, the others were animal complains, but nothing major.

ENGINEER’S REPORT: **Fairhill Road:** Mrs. Ketterer stated the Carey family on Fairhill Road did not approve of the initial study to be done at the landslide area affecting their driveway. The geotechnical engineering firm revised their proposal with less borings and less options from \$20,000 to \$13,457. Mrs. Phillips stated she would like Mrs. Ketterer to proceed with the lower bid from the engineers to assess what requirements are necessary to stabilize the road.

Borough Road Assessment: Mrs. Ketterer stated she will be doing a road assessment of the Borough roads as requested by Mrs. Phillips, but the weather conditions have not been conducive to conducting a study at this time. She will try to get something put together for the March 2019 Council meeting.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT: **Comprehensive Plan:** Atty. Shannon stated that he would compose a letter to Allegheny County letting them know we are satisfied with the Comprehensive Plan at this time, as there has been little change to our Borough since the last one in 1991.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Guttendorf reported the following balances in the Borough's accounts:

PNC	\$ 84,086
General Fund	\$ 270,228
Capital Reserve	\$ 82,467

Mr. Guttendorf reported that the transfer of funds gained interest in the amount of \$1,100.00

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: **Bid to repair hallway wall:** Ms. Steele reported that Greg Walko has given the Borough a bid of \$75.00 to repair the damage to the hallway wall, the Boy Scout troupe was charged to cover the repair.

Grant Check: Ms. Steele reported that Allegheny County released the Grant check for \$2,000 this was for the Borough to update the Stormwater Management Ordinance.

COUNCIL MEMBERS: **Engineering Firm for Staircase:** Mrs. Guttendorf reported she has contacted an engineering firm to assess the possibility of installing stairs to access the attic and is asking for approval of \$350 to \$500 for their services.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Lapore to approve up to \$500 to hire this engineering firm to study the possibility of the installation of stair to the attic, seconded by Mr. Hajnas, roll call is taken and passed with all in favor.

Installation of secure locks: Mrs. Guttendorf reported that she and Mr. Guttendorf were at the Borough building the weekend the Boy Scouts were here for an overnight, she discovered that two of the Scout leaders had set up cots in the Utility Room, she locked the door and discovered later they had accessed the room again to retrieve their cots. She is asking to install better locks on the Utility Room and on the Borough Secretary's office.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Hajnas to spend up to \$500 to hire a locksmith to install more secure locks on the Utility Room and the Borough Secretary's office, seconded by Mrs. Guttendorf, roll call is taken and passes with all in favor.

Crime Watch Signs: Mr. Hajnas asked Chief Hanny what phone number should be listed on the "Crime Watch" signs in the Borough, the ones in the Borough at this time list an old number, Chief Hanny stated they should list "9-1-1" as the emergency number.

Henry Road Maintenance: Mrs. Phillips reported that a resident sent an email to all the Council members and the Mayor and that he copied several news organizations regarding the lack of snow removal on Henry Road. Mrs. Phillips

stated that all the newsletters sent by the Borough during 2015-2017, the Borough website, the

Allegheny County website all indicate that Henry Road is a PennDOT State maintained road. PennDOT's website outlines the parameters for their prioritizing of the maintenance of roads in Allegheny County. Mrs. Phillips states that PennDOT's purpose is to keep roads passable making the highest traffic roads the priority, secondary roads are next, they limit salt making their priority hills, bridges, intersections the main focus of salting. Sewickley Hills Borough is not responsible for the maintenance of Henry Road. This resident sent a number of nasty worded email for not plowing Henry Road, he also requested a copy of the 2018 Budget and a balance sheet, Mrs. Phillips responded to his email and told him that he must submit a Right-to-Know request to which he responded "that this policy needs to be changed". It is not a Borough policy it is State mandated. Chief Hanny stated that if a resident calls Ohio Township Police Department with an issue they will contact the proper maintenance authority. Mrs. Guttendorf stated that the Borough roads are maintained by Wick Landscaping and they do an excellent job.

Pets in the Borough building: Mr. Faulkner stated he proposes a sign outside the Borough building should be placed stating "Service Animals Only". Mr. Guttendorf stated he has a severe allergy to dogs and he will have to resign as Treasurer if a sign is not installed.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mrs. Phillips to spend up to \$100 to install 3 signs that state "Service Animals Only", seconded by Mr. Hajnas, roll call is taken the motion passes with all in favor.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Lapore to pay the bills as presented, seconded by, Mr. Hajnas. Mrs. Guttendorf abstains from approving Mr. Guttendorf's check; roll call is taken with all in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: A motion is made by to Mr. Hajnas to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., seconded by Mr. Lapore; motion is carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted
Diana Steele-Secretary