

SEWICKLEY HILLS BOROUGH
Tuesday, May 8, 2018 Public Hearing and
General Council Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Mrs. Phillips 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: Cynthia Phillips, Lucille Guttendorf, Joseph H. Hajnas, Michael Lepore, Mayor David Malarik, Arthur Leonard (Solicitor), Emile Ketterer (NIRA), Charlie Guttendorf (Treasurer), Diana Steele (Secretary)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Jack Faulkner

CITIZENS ATTENDED: Craig Rowland, Detective Joe Hanny, Joe Hajnas, Sr., Cindy Spencer, Jeanne Minnicks, and Ken Mosi.

PUBLIC HEARING: A public hearing is held to discuss the Mini-Cell Tower Ordinance and the description of pervious pavement. The public hearing concludes at 7:45 p.m.; the regular Council meeting convenes.

MINUTE APPROVAL: Mrs. Phillips asks if Council has reviewed April 10, 2018 meeting minutes for approval. Mrs. Phillips has one minor change to be made under the Pittsburgh Soccer, change hockey to soccer.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mrs. Guttendorf to approve, as amended, seconded by Mr. Hajnas the meeting minutes of April 10, 2018.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Guttendorf reported the following bank balances:

PNC	\$ 12,606.00
FNB	\$ 358,662.00
Capital Reserve	\$ 82,467.00

POLICE REPORT: Mayor Malarik states there were 19 Police calls in April, five were traffic related, minor issues Detective Hanney confirms.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: **Hunt Road:** Mrs. Ketterer reported the Hunt Road project has been advertised in the Post-Gazette, she sent bid documents to 18 paving contractors.

Mrs. Phillips asked Mrs. Ketterer to pull the Sewickley Hills Borough Charter to establish the property locations for Hunt Road in preparation to survey and place permanent markers.

Both Cindy Spencer and Jeanne Minnicks addressed Council with comments (attached). Mr. Ken Mosi stated that speeding is the problem. Detective Hanney stated he will make sure to patrol Hunt Road as often as possible. Mr. Rowland stated he appreciates all the work Council has put into the Hunt Road project.

Mrs. Phillips stated that Council over the years has tried to strike a balance between fixing the roads and doing what the residents wanted, to not fix them too well so that speeding wouldn't become an issue. There have also been continuing issues of water coming off the hillside, especially from the Bell Acres section of the road. In July the residents of Hunt Road stated that you wanted something further done, at which point we had several engineering meetings on Hunt Road to find a solution to the issues. Mr. Rowland stated that he has 23 memos starting from June 7, 2013 to April 10, 2018 and can understand a lot of back and forth on the Hunt Road issue that maybe frustrates Council members. Mrs. Phillips stated that there is not a single person on Council that didn't take the letter presented at the April 10, 2018 meeting, from the residents of Hunt Road, as extreme criticism of the work put into this issue.

Mr. Hajnas stated that a lot of time has gone into applying for and obtaining the grant money to make repairs to Hunt Road and now the grant is locked in.

The Plan: Mrs. Phillips stated the Borough has received several complaints regarding the aggregate spread in the Plan. The contractor has re-vacuumed the roads to pick up the loose aggregate and have dumped the excess in the Borough parking lot. We are in the process of obtaining bids to spread the aggregate in the parking lot. Youngblood did the work at no additional cost to the Borough. Mrs. Ketterer has visited Pacer Road where the owner complained there were cracks at the end of his driveway, Mrs. Ketterer reported she couldn't find the location of the cracks, but will monitor.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Village of Sewickley Hills: Atty. Leonard stated that the amended written communication with the Sewickley LLC has been sent; they have 30 days to sign and return to the Borough.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Road Salt: Ms. Steele states Mr. Lapore has obtained information regarding the road salt situation after he spoke with John Wick. Mr. Wick stated that Haysville and Osborn also are in need of road salt and storage facilities, with the issue of equipment and an operator to load the salt. Mr. Wick has the equipment and an operator he further stated a storage shed is required to store 20 tons, the building needs to be at least 20' x 30'. The next task is the location of a storage shed. Mrs. Phillips asks if the Borough property along Red Mud Hollow Road (the old sewage treatment plant) could be used. Atty. Leonard stated that it would be subject to zoning laws, and it is not zoned for this use, he further stated Council could change the ordinance. There are also issues with stormwater management and a DEP permit would be required. Mr. Rowland stated perhaps the Boroughs could rent property from Mr. Ray Ott. Mr. Lapore stated John Wick may have property in the Borough that could be used and will discuss further with John Wick and report back to Council.

Snow Removal Contract: Ms. Steele asks Council to approve funds to advertise for snow removal for the coming years.

MOTION: A motion is made by Mr. Hajnas to approve funds to advertise for snow removal for 2018 through 2021, seconded by Mrs. Guttendorf, roll call is taken with all in favor.

Seams in Parking lot and repaint lines: Mrs. Phillips asks Ms. Steele to obtain information of companies in the area to bid for sealing the seams in the parking lot and repainting the lines from Mrs. Ketterer.

Building Rentals: Ms. Steele reported the rate increase from \$350 to \$400 for non-residents has not deterred the rentals. Mrs. Kovacs is asked to look into raising the rental rate and perhaps increasing the security deposit as the increase in rentals has taken a toll on the building thus increasing the need for repairs and cleaning.

Hard to Recycle Items: Ms. Steele reported there is a notice on our website regarding upcoming collection dates and times for hard to recycle items.

Road Signs: Ms. Steele obtained prices for road signs from the Big House. Mrs. Phillips asks to obtain a bid for signs from John Wick. The priority is Hunt Road, after NIRA Engineers can determine the Borough property lines.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mrs. Phillips wishes to thank the volunteer women who cleaned up Magee Road.

Mrs. Phillips stated the audio recording equipment needs to be replaced. Mr. Mosi said he can help with information regarding the best type of equipment and will report back to Council.

Mrs. Guttendorf reported she is obtaining bids to replace the Treasurer's computer.

Mrs. Guttendorf stated Council needs to prioritize the next projects for the Borough with the front of the building landscaping should become the priority. Mrs. Phillips stated we need to make the hillside coming up the driveway presentable. Mrs. Guttendorf asked if John Wick would be interested in putting in more landscaping.

Mr. Lapore stated that he is in the process of working with Guy Reschenthaler to start grant paperwork to get a donation of an AED (Artificial Emergency Defibrillator) for the building; the cost is between \$2500 - \$3000.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: A motion is made by Mrs. Guttendorf to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 p.m., seconded by Mr. Hajnas; motion is carried with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted
Diana Steele-Secretary

Cindy Spencer requested to address Council with comments concerning last month's Council meeting. Contents as follows:

"I am Cindy Spencer referred in the last borough meeting as one of the three Hunt Road people who disappointed you and had lost all credibility by submitting a letter thanking the borough for the upcoming Road improvements while offering concern and suggestions to improve safety knowing once the road is repaired it will see increased vehicle volume.

After I listened to the audio tape of the last borough meeting, I'd like to address your unprofessional and disrespectful response to our letter. The Hunt Road Taxpayers have not lost credibility but the borough committee certainly has with its disrespect of taxpayers and complete lack of transparency on the Hunt Road project, unless of course you feel two lines in borough meeting minutes in September 2017, February and March is what you deem transparent. There was more conversation on the garbage contract and replacing the carpets in the rental building than the Hunt Road improvements. There was no discussion on what specifically the grant entailed, what was approved, what work would be done, between what addresses, when would work happen, and the minutes of the March meeting did not contain the borough Engineer agreeing to a meeting with the residents to discuss these points probably because the question was not captured on audio.

I can help you break the rock and a hard place situation Madam President – thank you for repairing Hunt Road. This is the first step in assuring safety on the road. We now know the speed limit cannot be changed except by the State, and will revisit the opportunity for speed humps (as noted in the PennDOT "Traffic Calming Handbook") in a future meeting. I would respectfully ask the borough Engineer to eliminate the proposed "dust suppressant" as it is near impossible to remove from shoes, paws and car wheels.

As a final note, had the borough committee provided transparency into the Hunt Road project and discussed the plan in more detail with the residents and taxpayers, the Hunt Road letter of concern would have been unnecessary."

Jeanne Minnicks asks to address Council with the following:

"My name is Jeanne Minnicks and I'd like to add briefly to Cindy's remarks. I'd also ask that my comments be noted in the minutes for public record.

I listened to the recording of the April Council meeting during which the letter that Cindy Spencer, Barb Mosi and I written was discussed, and I was disappointed and disheartened. First, we, the Hunt Road people who were the topic of public discussion, were not present to respond to Council's comments. That was totally inappropriate.

Second, our letter was not self-serving nor intended to be insulting or the nuisance that members of Council seemed to think it was. We expressed our concerns in writing about a public safety issue, namely speeding on Hunt Road, which if you recall was not the first time the issue was raised. At a Council meeting last year, suggestions such as speed limit signs, patrols, or cameras were ruled out as unworkable. We had done our homework and learned that speed humps were found to be reasonably effective in slowing traffic and thought that since repairs to address drainage issues on Hunt Road were in the planning stages, maybe speed humps could be factored into the engineering design. We're not engineers and don't know how feasible our suggestion was. Nor did we know that the final plan had been delivered to Council. Regardless, the appropriate response to our letter would have been "Thank you for your input, but we're too far along to revise the road design. Your suggestions have merit and we'll revisit them at a letter time".

I serve on several nonprofit boards and know that volunteer service involves a lot of personal time and a commitment to others. You deserve our thanks for all you do on our behalf. But you don't have the right to disparage the people you chose to serve in public. An apology would be the right thing to do."