

SPECIAL MEETING JANUARY 24, 2013

A Special Meeting of the North Sewickley Township Board of Supervisors was held on Thursday, January 24, 2013 at 7:00 P. M. at the North Sewickley Township Building, 893 Mercer Road, Beaver Falls. Supervisors in attendance were Norman Giancola, Philip Dent, and Linda Brown. Also in attendance was Solicitor, Neva Stanger.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Norman Giancola followed by the salute to the flag.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown	Here
Mr. Dent	Yes
Mr. Giancola	Here

Chairman Giancola asked the newly appointed attorney, Neva Stanger, to explain the ground rules for the visitors' portion of the meeting.

Attorney Stanger explained that the meeting is primarily for the purpose of discussing the tentative budget that we hope to take action of advertise tonight. Everyone who signed up on the sheet will be given an opportunity to make comment. It will not be a question and answer period. It is just an opportunity for visitors to comment on matters on and off the agenda. If you have questions, you may submit them by email or to the Township Secretary and we will try to provide you with answers. After the public comment closes after everyone has had an opportunity to speak, the supervisors will get about the business for the evening and there will be no further public comment.

Attorney Stanger understands that there are questions about the budget and other matters related to that. She explained that she will try to clear that up during the Solicitors Report as to what things have occurred and what need to occur.

Visitors signed in include: Emmett Santillo, Tosha Sterner, Tami Ray, Roger Baney, Dave Scopellite and Shawn Plassmeyer.

Visitors: Mr. Santillo asked for clarification on how the visitors can comment when they don't know what action is being taken. Ms. Stanger explained the supervisors are only doing two things tonight. Voting to pay the bills and voting to advertise a tentative budget. When Mr. Santillo asked about the tax rate, Ms Stanger reported that the tax rate was set at the December 31 meeting at 8 mills.

Mr. Dent asked for permission to speak. He disagrees that the public doesn't have the right to ask questions. The sunshine law states that the public should be given a copy of the agenda so they may ask questions and prepare comments. He disagrees that they are not allowed to ask questions. Ms. Stanger stated they can ask questions, they don't get answers, it is not a question and answer session. Mr. Dent stated that he disagrees.

Tosha Sterner asked if anyone knows how much has been charged in late fees due to not paying the bills for the last couple of months. The supervisors stated they do not know.

Tami Ray wanted to know if, because of all the problems with the budget, are we in danger of losing revenue, such as taxes, liquid fuels etc. She presented a list of questions to which the supervisors will provide answers. She asked if the Township is in danger of bankruptcy.

Roger Baney asked for the email address. Mr. Dent stated the office email is [nst@zoominternet.net](mailto:nst@zoominternet.net). Mr. Baney asked about the budget and about a tax anticipation loan.

Shawn Plassmeyer commented on the change of the rules. Thinks the board should adopt Roberts Rules for conducting a meeting.

#### BUSINESS:

Solicitors Report: Reported the state of the budget. It appears on December 31st, the only action taken was to raise the millage to 8 mills. The budget was not passed on December 31<sup>st</sup>. Tonight they will work on a tentative budget that will be advertised so that the public has proper notice and an opportunity to look at it for 20 days prior to final adoption. Not concerned about Act 47. Not concerned about a loss of revenue. She also addressed public comment.

#### BUDGET:

The Supervisors reviewed the previous tentative budget and made the following adjustments: Real Estate Current: Decreased from the 10 mills proposed \$560,000.00 to 8 mills or \$448,000.00  
Increased Earned Income Tax from \$450,000.00 to \$530,000.00  
Increased Secretaries Wages from \$29,120.00 to \$36,400.00  
Real Estate Tax Collector Commission from \$24,000.00 to \$17,920.00  
Berkheimer Commission from \$10,000.00 to \$8,300.00  
Increased Solicitors Fees from \$4,000.00 to \$10,000.00  
Increased Part Time Police from \$80,000.00 to \$93,900.00

Linda Brown made a motion to amend the agenda to include a resolution for Berkheimer Earned Income Tax Collection. Mr. Giancola seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown	yes
Mr. Dent	yes
Mr. Giancola	yes

Ms. Brown moved to adopt resolution 12413 appointing Sandra Greer as liaison between the Board of Supervisors and Berkheimer for the express purpose of sharing

confidential tax information with the district for official purposes. Mr. Giancola seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown        yes  
              Mr. Dent            yes  
              Mr. Giancola        yes

The supervisors discussed the Treasurers Bond which the insurance company set at \$250,000.00. Mr. Dent feels that \$250,000.00 was not enough.

Linda made a motion to advertise the 2013 tentative budget pursuant to the Second Class Township Code. Mr. Giancola seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown        yes  
              Mr. Dent            no  
              Mr. Giancola        yes

Ms. Brown made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Seconded by Mr. Dent.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown        yes  
              Mr. Dent            yes  
              Mr. Giancola        yes

Ms. Brown made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Giancola.

Roll Call: Ms. Brown        yes  
              Mr. Dent            yes  
              Mr. Giancola        yes

Sandra Greer  
Secretary

