

**Workshop Meeting Activity**

**November 8, 2021**

**TITLE**

**MOTION**

**SECOND**

Approve the October 18, 2021 Legislative Meeting Minutes.

Commissioner Darragh

Commissioner Richert

Authorize Manager Patterson to reach out to the property owners at the back of Sewickley Heights Manor to ascertain what they would be interested in negotiating to secure an emergency access easement.

Commissioner Haluka

Commissioner Darragh

Adjournment

**TOWNSHIP OF ALEPPO**

**WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES**

**November 8, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:**

President Jones called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with roll call. Those in attendance were Commissioner Daniel Darragh, Commissioner Amy Richert, Commissioner Judy Haluka, Solicitor Harlan Stone, and Manager Gwen Patterson. Vice President Arthur Williams and Secretary Patty Krecek were not in attendance. The meeting is being recorded.

**MINUTES:**

Commissioner Darragh made a motion to approve the October 18, 2021 Legislative Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Richert seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**ELECTION RESULTS:**

President Jones thanked Commissioner Haluka for agreeing to fill in the blank on the ballot for the two-year Commissioner term, and he thanked everyone in attendance at tonight's meeting for continuing to serve the Township. He also thanked everyone who came out to vote. He said that 47% of the registered voters came out to vote, which was a good turnout.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**STATUS UPDATE - ZONING ORDINANCE REVISION:**

Manager Patterson stated that the next Planning Commission meeting will be in December, and in the meantime, she will be having another staff meeting with the zoning consultants and Solicitor Stone to continue to work on the revisions. Manager Patterson said the revisions will not be finished by the end of the year, which was the original goal. She said that in the first quarter of 2022, the revisions will be presented to the Board and there also will be public hearings.

**EMERGENCY ACCESS FROM SEWICKLEY HEIGHTS MANOR:**

Manager Patterson provided a letter from the president of the Manor Board requesting that the Township look into the idea of removing one or two trees in the cul-de-sac area of Sewickley Heights Drive and put either a gate or chain to block the proposed access road. This would allow emergency vehicles to drive out of the back side of Sewickley Heights Drive back by the loop and out onto a private driveway that goes to Weber Road. Manager Patterson said that this idea was discussed several years ago and there were easement drawings and agreements for the four property owners along the private access off of Weber Road. She said she did not approach the residents because two of the residents approached her and expressed their displeasure with the idea. Commissioner Haluka said that the emergency exit would only be used for a large evacuation from the Manor, and the only vehicles that would use the exit would be ambulances, rescue

vehicles, etc. Solicitor Stone said that this is the route recommended by HRG Engineering. Solicitor Stone also said that the Township can negotiate with the four residents and state that in exchange for a limited access easement to be used in emergency situations, the Township would agree to improve the existing road, one-time only, and put in additional shrubbery, etc. Commissioner Haluka stated that in a true emergency, first responders are trained to get to the situation through all kinds of access, so residents should be reassured that the first responders will do everything they can to get to the emergency situation.

Commissioner Haluka made a motion to authorize Manager Patterson to reach out to the property owners at the back of Sewickley Heights Manor to ascertain what they would be interested in negotiating to secure an emergency access easement. Commissioner Darragh seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**STATUS UPDATE - 2022 BUDGET:**

Manager Patterson said that the first preliminary draft of the budget has been given to the Finance Committee, which is President Jones and Treasurer Steup. She also said she would like to give a draft budget to the Commissioners next week, and have the budget adopted in December 2021. President Jones said that the auditor will present his report for 2020 at the Legislative Meeting on November 15, 2021. He also said that revenue in 2020 was higher and expenses were lower, so there was a carryover.

**MASONIC:**

Commissioner Haluka said that on election day it was brought to her attention that Masonic had a major outbreak of COVID and that the Hawthorne area was full of COVID patients. Commissioner Haluka stated that she immediately communicated with personnel from Masonic and Allegheny County, and there is not an outbreak of COVID at Masonic.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Not requested.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned by President Jones at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Krecek  
Township Secretary