

BOROUGH OFFICERS

Mayor

DENEEN SWARTZWELDER

Borough Manager

KATHERINE MALSCH

Assistant Borough Manager

GREG BACHY

Solicitor

ROBERT L. MCTIERNAN



BOROUGH COUNCIL

ABIGAIL SALISBURY- *President*

WELDIANNE SCALES- *Vice President*

Members

SHAWN ALFONSO WELLS

CHRISTOPHER ANSELL

DAVID PETRARCA

WILLIAM C. PRICE, JR.

MICHELE STANTON

BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES JANUARY 6, 2021

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER at 7:04PM.
2. ROLL CALL- W. Price- here; D. Petrarca- here; S. Alfonso Wells- here; C. Ansell- here; M. Stanton- here; W. Scales- arrived at 7:19PM; Mayor Swartzwelder- here; President Salisbury- here
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
Public comment was submitted in advance and read into the record by President Salisbury.
 - a. Amy Kennedy- Following up on her question about the Tax Collector's total compensation.
 - i. This will be a planned agenda item for a future meeting.
4. Business Agenda Items
 - a. Approval of Minutes-
MOTION: I move to approve the November 18th, 2020 and the December 2nd, 2020 minutes. S. Alfonso Wells. 2nd C. Ansell. All ayes. Motion carries.
 - b. Board Vacancies-
There are currently five (5) vacancies on various boards and commissions. The Borough will be looking to fill seats on the Planning Commission, Zoning Hearing Board, Shade Tree Commission, Steel Valley Authority, and the Recreation Committee. Public advertisements of the positions are set to be published on Thursday, January 14th, and will expire on February 12th, 2021. Interviews will be held at the Wednesday, February 24th Agenda

Meeting, with a decision to be rendered at the Wednesday, March 3rd, 2021, Regular Meeting.

- i. President Salisbury clarified that the Planning Commission does not involve planning of the Borough.

5. Finance Report- David Petrarca

MOTION: I move to approve the payment of bills as of December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$863,574.13.

Unpaid bills as of December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$0.

2nd by S. Alfonso Wells. All ayes. Motion carries.

6. Police Report- Chief Watson

- a. There was a road rage incident that occurred on New Year's Eve involving shots fired.

- i. Several people incurred minor injuries.

- ii. We are currently investigating.

- b. December 16th, 2020 the Swissvale Police had a toy giveaway event with several other local police departments at Edgewood Towne Centre.

- i. It was a drive up, contactless toy giveaway.

- ii. The toys were provided by Toys for Pittsburgh Tikes.

- iii. At least 1000 cars came through.

- iv. Police department thanked Mayor Swartzwelder and Councilwoman Stanton for helping to pass out gifts.

7. Code and Fire Report- Chief Wilhelm

- a. Report for the month of December is on file in the Manager's Office and posted online.

- b. An application was received for the Vacant Property Recovery Program for a side yard on Lehigh Street. Chief Wilhelm will forward all the information to Council for approval of a resolution at February's meeting.

8. Public Works Report- Greg Bachy

- a. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's Office, posted online and sent to Council.

- b. Christmas trees will be collected on your scheduled trash collection day through January 22, 2021.
- c. There is a malfunctioning traffic signal at intersection of Monongahela and Church. It will be repaired tomorrow.
- d. On McClure Ave between Monroe St and Tonette St and on Tonette St, there will be a gas line replacement project lasting for 3 months.
- e. Mr. Bachy commended the DPW employees for the great job they did plowing and salting the roads over Christmas and New Year's.

9. C.O.G. Report Weldianne Scales- No report

10. CONNECT Report- Shawn Alfonso-Wells

- a. Councilwoman Alfonso Wells reported on the Lead Project and mentioned that CONNECT is also working on sustainability and sewage projects.

11. President's Report- Abigail Salisbury

- a. President Salisbury would like to implement 3 goals this year- safety, service and success.
- b. Council will meet in executive session after tonight's meeting for discussion of police matters.

12. Mayor's Report- Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder

- a. Mayor Swartzwelder thanked the hosts and everyone who participated in the Elf search in December. There were over 100 participants.
- b. Swissvale was the only place in Pennsylvania to rank on 247wallst.com's list of America's 50 Best Cities to Live.
- c. Farmer's market will resume in June.
- d. Community Days is tentatively scheduled for June 18th and 19th at Memorial Park to be coordinated with the Juneteenth celebration.
- e. We received funding from Western Pennsylvania Conservancy for flower planting.
- f. SEDCO is looking to do a curb appeal grant to help residents with landscaping and things that make a house more appealing.

- g. The Enterprise Zone is continuing the E Shore social media program
- h. Rotary provided support to the Carnegie Library for wi-fi hotspots.

13. Water Authority Report- Tracey Crombie-Collins- No report

14. Solicitor's Report- Robert McTiernan

- a. All filings for the Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) are completed and have been received by the Department of Community and Economic Development.

15. Borough Manager's Report- Katie Malsch

- a. Core Architects was awarded the building structure and asbestos analysis.
 - i. The kickoff meeting to discuss the analysis will be next week. There will be a more detailed meeting schedule after that.
- b. Applicants have until January 22nd, 2021 to apply for the Finance Director position.
- c. Mr. McTiernan will have something prepared by the next meeting to address the We Buy Houses signs that have been appearing all over the Borough.

16. Motion to adjourn at 7:36PM.

S. Alfonso Wells. 2nd C. Ansell. All ayes. Motion carries.