



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**October 3, 2018**

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.
  2. Invocation – Eric Baldwin
  3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman Darrell Rapp
  4. Roll Call – P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – here, T. Ward – here, D. Swartzwelder – here, A. Salisbury – here, M. Stanton – here, D. Rapp – here
  5. Public Comment
    - a. Gisele Hoover (2015 Lafayette Street, Crossing Guard) – Ms. Hoover stated that kindergarteners are beings allowed off of school buses without parents present. Her understanding is that Woodland Hills requires parents to be present to pick up kindergarten students. Chief Watson will contact the school district.
    - b. Marty Busch (2010 Monroe Street) – Mr. Busch presented the proceeds check of \$735 from the Annual Corn Roast and Car Cruise to the Mayor, Chief Watson and Asst. Fire Chief Volpe.
    - c. Johnny Grandizio (2624 Woodstock) – Mr. Grandizio asked about the status of Swissvale’s movement toward ownership of Woodstock Terrace. He stated that the Water Authority has refused to repair the road because it is not a public road. Mr. Wilhelm responded that the Water Authority contacted the borough and wanted the borough to pay for half of the repairs. Mr. Wilhelm informed the Water Authority’s engineer that the borough cannot lawfully use tax payer money to pay for repairs on a road that the borough does not own. Surveys were completed and the solicitor’s office is working on drafting an ordinance to eventually take ownership of the road. Mr. Wilhelm stated that a water main break damaged the road and it is the Water Authority’s responsibility to repair it. Discussion followed regarding the process, legal requirements and cost for the borough to take ownership and reconstruct the roadway. T. Crombie-Collins will contact the Water Authority for an update regarding repairs.
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6. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes for the *Agenda Meeting* on August 29, 2018 and the *Regular Council Meeting* on September 5, 2018. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.

7. AGENDA ITEMS:

- a. Motion to appoint Jacob Smith to the position of full time police officer, pending satisfactory completion of physical and psychological evaluations at the salary established in the current collective bargaining agreement. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
  - b. Motion to appoint Justin Schirmer to the position of full time police officer, pending satisfactory completion of physical and psychological evaluations at the salary established in the current collective bargaining agreement. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
  - c. Motion to appoint Benjamin Rudd to the position of shift commander in the Fire Department at the rate established in the current collective bargaining agreement. Moved by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
  - d. Motion to approve Ordinance 18-01 amending the Recreation Board Ordinance. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
  - e. Motion to adopt Ordinance 18-02 amending Chapter 21, Part 1 of the Swissvale Borough Code entitled Street Excavations requiring additional restoration requirements for trenches within the road surface that exceed 100 feet. Moved by D. Petrarca, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
  - f. Motion to approve the advertisement of a Public Hearing for the Storm Water Management Ordinance to be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Moved by D. Petrarca, Second by D. Rapp. All ayes, motion carries.
  - g. Motion to award a bid to A.R. Bobick, Inc. for various as needed contracted services for excavation equipment and labor for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 at the rates specified in the bid ranging from \$100.00 per hour to \$150.00 per hour. Moved by D. Petrarca, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
  - h. Motion to award a bid to F.M. Maraldo, Inc. for various as needed contracted services for concrete repair and replacement for the period of January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2021 at the rates specified in the bid ranging from \$65.00 per hour to \$300.00 per hour. Moved by D. Petrarca, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
  - i. Motion to purchase a 2018 Titan Pro Leaf Machine from Golden Equipment in the amount of \$54,500 under a Co-Stars contract. Moved by D. Petrarca, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
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- j. Motion to approve a change order in the amount of \$39,250.00 with Civil and Environmental Consultants (CEC) for additional work performed for the South Braddock Avenue TAP project. Moved by T. Ward, Second by D. Rapp. All ayes, motion carries.
8. Finance Report – Councilman Tim Ward
- Paid Bills as of **September 30, 2018** in the amount of \$ 1,037,975.33.
  - Unpaid Bills as of **September 30, 2018** in the amount of \$ 166,809.97.
  - Motion to approve the financial report by T. Ward. Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
9. Police Report – Councilwoman Patricia Gionta
- a. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's office.
  - b. Chief Watson thanked Mayor Swartzwelder, members of council and the Borough Manager for their commitment to the police department and for hiring the two full-time officers.
10. Code and Fire Report – Councilwoman Michele Stanton, Asst. Chief Volpe
- a. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's office.
  - b. Free Flu Shots for the community will be available at the Fire Department on October 15 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., October 15 and 17 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
  - c. The next First Aid and CPR Class will be Saturday, January 5, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
  - d. Building inspections and permits have been increasing steadily.
  - e. The department is on pace to have a record call year with over 1,600 calls this year.
11. Public Works Report – Councilman David Petrarca
- a. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's office.
  - b. Interviews will take place on Thursday, October 4 for temporary laborers. Public Works would like to get one or two employees started as soon as possible to fill an open spot from a resignation. They may be asking Council to ratify the hiring(s) next month if suitable candidates are found through the interview process.
  - c. Mr. Bachy and Mr. Petrarca thanked Council for approving the purchase of the new leaf machine. The old machine will be put on Muncibid.
  - d. Street Sweeping will conclude on Wednesday, October 31, 2018. The annual leaf collection program will begin on Thursday, November 1, 2018 and will continue
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through Friday, December 7, weather permitting. Leaves will be collected following the street sweeping schedule. Since all leaf waste is shredded and disposed of at a DEP permitted leaf composting site you cannot place grass clippings, tree branches, other yard waste, dirt or trash in your leaf piles. Any contaminated leaf waste will not be collected until all materials other than leaves are removed. Leaves must be raked onto the edge of the street by 7:00 a.m. on your collection day. Due to the volume of leaves in the Borough we can only clean each street once a week, so if your leaves are not out when the truck is on your street they will not be collected until the following week!

- e. A landslide occurred in the rear of properties on Lafayette Street abutting Memorial Park. According to one of the affected property owners, the slide occurred in May but no one reported it to the Borough. The staff engaged the services of a geotechnical engineer and State Pipe Services to assist with the investigation of the cause of the slide. The geotechnical engineer has been to the site twice and will continue his investigation until he can make a determination of the cause of the slide. We will keep Council informed on the findings of the engineer.
- f. The South Braddock Avenue and Sanders Street pedestrian safety improvement project is underway and the contractor will be working nightly from 7:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m., Monday thru Thursday. There will be alternating closures with detours and reduction of the roadway to one lane throughout the project so please slow down in this area while this project is underway. The contractor is anticipating completion of the project during the week of October 15.

#### 12. Outstanding Complaints Report – None

#### 13. C.O.G. Report – Councilman Tim Ward

- a. The C.O.G. meeting was moved to the same night as Swissvale's Agenda Meeting so Mr. Ward was unable to attend.

#### 14. President's Remarks – President Stanton

- a. Nothing to report.

#### 15. Mayor's Report – Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder

- a. Saturday, October 6 is Applefest at the Farmer's Market. The market runs through October 27.
  - b. October 13 is SEDCO's monthly clean up. Volunteers should meet at 10 a.m. at Farmers market. SEDCO is also hosting a clothing drive with St. Vincent de Paul at the Farmer's Market.
  - c. Council is invited to join SEDCO for a tour of the school house apartments on McClure Avenue at 6:00 p.m. on October 22.
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- d. The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Parade is October 27 at noon. The parade starts at Roslyn Street and walks to Dickson for candy. Trick-or-Treat is October 31 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
- e. Friday October 5<sup>th</sup> is the first fall Fish Fry at the Fire Department

#### 16. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins

- a. The quarterly review of the pension plan took place. The 2019 budget is in process. The Water Authority is obtaining grants for projects in several municipalities. A contract was entered with Kunkel Water Efficiency Consulting to conduct a water loss study report. There was a change order increasing the Woodstock mainline replacement by an additional \$20,000.
- b. Between August 20 and September 13 there were no breaks in Swissvale.
- c. Mr. Wilhelm stated that he had read that the Water Authority's revenues are up and expenditures are down. T. Crombie-Collins confirmed that this was correct.

#### 17. Planning Commission – Greg Bachy

- a. There is a meeting scheduled for October 18. There are three applications pending from Extenet. The company adds wireless nodes to utility poles. All three applications were rejected. Two of the applications are not complete. The third application was to place a new pole on Smokeywood Drive which is not permitted by the zoning ordinance. The company was given a response date of October 12. The solicitor's office advised to ask the company to withdraw their applications.

#### 18. Solicitor Report – Robert McTiernan

- a. Nothing in addition to agenda items.

#### 19. Engineer Report – Robert Zischkau

- a. Three Rivers Wet Weather/ALCOSAN meetings have been canceled until the DEP issues the next draft ordinance for the consent orders.
- b. The borough received notification that they will not receive funding for the green infrastructure project below Memorial Park. Mr. Zischkau will contact to find out the reason.

#### 20. Borough Manager Report – Clyde Wilhelm

- a. Mr. Wilhelm received a request for a change order for the LGAR Home demolition project. The Allegheny County Health Department demolition requirements increased the costs for Continental Development in the amount of \$20,000. D. Petrarca made a motion to authorize the change order. Second by T. Ward. Discussion regarding Allegheny County's requirements for asbestos abatement. All ayes, motion carries.
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- b. Upcoming changes in the recycling program will be featured on the front page of the newsletter. Also included in the Manager's Message will be information concerning the increased cost of garbage.
- c. Mr. Wilhelm noted that Sarah Ansell accepted a job with Carnegie Mellon University and that her last day is Friday, October 5. He thanked her for what she has done for the Borough over the last two years. Discussion followed regarding plans for advertising and reviewing the job description.

21. Unfinished Business

22. New Business

- a. D. Petrarca cited an article concerning other municipalities changing their "garbage fee" to a "garbage/recycling" fee.
- b. D. Petrarca cited a second article on the front page of the Post Gazette. The article focused on vacant properties and North Braddock considering disbanding. Mr. Petrarca expressed his gratitude that a similar situation did not happen in Swissvale.
- c. President Stanton reported that Council met in executive session on September 5 and September 26 for matters of personnel and legal.

23. Motion to adjourn. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.

24. Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

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