



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 6, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 7:04pm.
2. Invocation – Pastor Chris Ansell
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilwoman Abigail Salisbury
4. Roll Call – P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – here, D. Rapp – here, T. Ward – here, A. Salisbury – here, D. Swartzwelder – here, M. Stanton – here.
5. Public Comment
 1. Amy Kennedy: 7460 Schoyer Ave
 - i. Has a couple updates regarding her concern about double stack trains in the area. First, Senator Jay Costa had a Telephone Town Hall the night before this council meeting in which he expressed concerns about funding that the train company might be receiving to make the railroads more adaptable to double stack trains and that he would look further into the issue. Second, Mrs. Kennedy read in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette that Port Authority has also expressed concern regarding the passage of double stack trains near any busway. Mr. Wilhelm also mentioned that he has not received a return call from Senator Costa's aide regarding this issue.
6. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes for the Agenda Meeting on November 28, 2018 and the Regular Council Meeting on December 5, 2018. Motion by P. Gionta, second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
7. Agenda Items –
 1. Motion to approve an amendment to the reimbursement agreement between Swissvale Borough and PennDOT for the South Braddock Avenue Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Improvement project to reflect the revised grant amount of \$1,639,243.00. Motion by T. Ward, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.

2. Motion to reject all bids received for the Demolition Project and re-advertise. Motion by J. Grose, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
3. Motion to approve **Resolution 19-02** authorizing the application for grant funding through the Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund (CITF) grant programs administered by Allegheny County for the purpose of constructing pedestrian and bicycle trails located between Memorial Park, Collingwood Playground, and the Carrie Furnace Site. Motion by P. Gionta, second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
4. Motion to approve the lease-purchase of computers from Dell Financial Services in the amount of \$14,771.75 through the PA COSTARS Program. Motion by P. Gionta, second by D. Rapp. All ayes, motion carries.
8. Finance Report – Motion by Councilman Tim Ward, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
 - Paid Bills as of **January 31st, 2019** in the amount of \$174,159.48.
 - Unpaid Bills as of **January 31st, 2019** in the amount of \$ 51,325.31.
9. Police Report
 1. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's Office.
 2. The Police Department is hosting "Coffee with Cops" on Saturday, February 23, 2019 at 11am at Goodfellas.
 3. There will be a five week Civilian Police Academy starting Sunday April 28th for the community. Applications will be made available and this event will be advertized in the newsletter and on social media.
 4. The Police Department was given the Platinum Award from AAA for Traffic Safety. This makes the 10th year in a row.
10. Code and Fire Report
 1. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's Office
 2. There have been two structure fires (the 1st on January 21st at 2520 South Braddock and the 2nd at 2016 Monongahela) in the borough since the last meeting. Those two fires were contained to the original structures.
 3. The annual Fish Fry will start on Ash Wednesday/March 6th and will run every Friday until Good Friday/April 19th. The hours are 11am-7pm.
 4. The Fire Department is hosting a Citizens Fire Academy. It is tentatively set to take place sometime in August with dates to be finalized at a later time.
 5. The next CPR Class is Saturday May 11th
 6. The Fire Department received a thank you letter from a resident that was present at the fire that occurred at 2520 South Braddock Avenue. The resident thanked the Fire Department for their prompt response.

7. Chief Wilhelm asks that council adopt a resolution adopting the updated emergency operations plan for 2019-2020. Motion by D. Petrarca, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.

11. Public Works Report

1. It was brought to the attention of Public Works that residents were unsure of how to report broken/burnt-out street lights in the Borough. The Public Works director developed a system that will work as follows: Residents should call into the Public Works Department with the nearest address and pole number of the light in question and then that information will be reported via email to Duquesne Light by the public works director.
2. The crosswalk signals at the intersection of Sanders and South Braddock are installed and operational.
3. Clean up Day will be Saturday May 18th, 2019. This day will give residents the opportunity to clean up and get rid of any hard to recycle items.
4. Pre-construction meeting is set for February 19th related to the Pedestrian and Bicycle improvement project on South Braddock Avenue. The contractor has said that he will be ready to start work sometime mid March. An article will be prepared for the newsletter to address how the work will affect residents.

12. Outstanding Complaints – none

13. C.O.G Report – Tim Ward

1. The COG Banquet took place on Friday February 2nd. Members of council and staff were present. The guest speaker was Rich Fitzgerald
2. The vector has been repaired and is back in operation.
3. The COG is in the process of hiring a Code Enforcement Officer
4. There was discussion about how to mitigate the high costs of asbestos abatement during building demolition.

14. President's Remarks

1. none

15. Mayor's Report

1. Starting Farmer's Market Meetings that will take place on the 2nd Monday of every month to prepare. The meetings will take place at Goodfellas. The first meeting is Monday February 10th at 6pm
2. Rotary will be having a meeting to discuss plans for the small park on Church Street. The date for that has been tentatively set for March 28th at Goodfellas

16. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins

1. At the January meeting the dates were set for future meetings voting to keep the same officers, and the rule book was updated and accepted
2. As a point of interest the rate of water main breaks is down. There were 125 reported breaks between November 2017 and January 2018. This

past year those reported breaks were down to 64. There were 5 water main breaks in Swissvale.

17. Planning Commission – Greg Bachy

1. Nothing to report. There was no meeting last month due to a lack of agenda items and it seems that this will also be the case for February.

18. Solicitor's Report – Robert McTiernan

1. none

19. Engineer's Report – Robert Zischkau

1. none

20. Borough Manager's Report – Clyde Wilhelm

1. The Borough officially ended 2018 with a surplus of \$128,144.
2. Swissvale has been named as a Banner Community for 2019.
3. Administration met with the insurance broker to discuss continuation of coverage for 2019. There will be a retroactive deduction for workmen's comp due in part to a glitch in the state system that our rates are based on.
4. Woodland Hills High School sent in a request to advertize in their musical program and Mr. Wilhelm wants council's approval before proceeding.
5. Megan Vrcic sent Mr. Wilhelm an email asking if the Swissvale Mile could continue to offer free advertising in the Swissvale Newsletter to sponsors of the mile. Mr. Wilhelm has brought this to council's attention because they are the only ones who can remove the fee. Council has decided that it would not be appropriate in this case to remove the fee.
6. The planning and design of the Kenmawr Bridge replacement is still ongoing. There have been some delays from PennDot and Mr. Wilhelm is contacting people to keep the project progressing.

21. Unfinished Business

1. none

22. New Business

1. none

23. Council president Stanton stated for the record that members of council met in executive session before the meeting and that they have a second executive session to follow tonight's meeting. Both meetings are for matters of legal and personnel.

24. Motion to Adjourn – P. Gionta, second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.

25. Meeting Adjourned at 7: 48pm.