



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

April 3, 2019

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00PM.
2. Invocation – Pastor Chris Ansell
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman David Petrarca
4. Roll Call – P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – here, D. Rapp – here, T. Ward – here, A. Salisbury – here, M. Stanton – here , D. Swartzwelder – absent.
5. Public Comment
Rachel Thompson (7113 Schoyer Avenue)
 1. Would like to hear more about the Borough’s proposal to build a shelter for the garbage trucks down at Memorial Field. Ms. Thompson feels strongly that the borough should not use parks as a storage location for borough equipment.
 - i. The borough manager explained that those plans have not been finalized yet and they cannot make any decisions about the location of the garbage trucks until they are certain of the plan for the McCague Street property.
 2. Ms. Thompson would like to hear more from council and the administration about what the plans are going forward.
 - i. Members of council have discussed setting up listening sessions for members of the public to voice their concerns.
 3. Ms. Thompson believes that the borough should have released a Request for Proposals related to this project to engage the community in the decision making process. She feels that members of council and administration are unaware of options that the public might be able to brainstorm.
 4. Ms. Thompson felt that the borough should never have considered the property on Irvine Street as the location for the new borough building because it forces them into negotiations with a former member of council and mayor. Ms. Thompson believes that it looks like corruption and could lead to an investigation.
 - i. Solicitor McTiernan said that the borough has more than one option when it comes to honoring or not honoring the lease in question. He explained that the reasoning for honoring the lease at the time of the proposal was because that was the option that would cost the borough the least amount of money.
6. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes from the Agenda meeting on February 27, 2019 and the Regular Meeting on March 6, 2019. Motion by D. Petrarca, second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
7. Agenda Items –

1. Motion to hire Lawrence A. Wilson as a First Class Operator in the Department of Public Works at the contractual rate of \$17.38 per hour. Motion by D. Petrarca, second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
2. Motion to authorize PennDOT to include the replacement of two manholes at the intersection of South Braddock Avenue and Woodstock Avenue in the scope of work when the Kenmawr Bridge is replaced, the cost of which will be reimbursed by the Borough. Motion by D. Petrarca, second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
3. Motion to approve **Resolution 19-04** to apply to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County – Gaming Economic Development Fund for funding to construct a trail between Memorial Park, Collingwood Park, the Borough of Rankin and the Carrie Furnace Site. Motion by T. Ward, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
4. Motion to approve **Resolution 19-05** to apply to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development – Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program for funding to construct a trail between Memorial Park, Collingwood Park, the Borough of Rankin and the Carrie Furnace Site. Motion by P. Gionta, second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
5. Motion to approve **Resolution 19-06** to apply to the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority – Multi-Modal Transportation Fund for funding to complete the Streetscape Project on Noble Street. Motion by P. Gionta, second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
6. Motion to approve **Resolution 19-07** recognizing the Wilkins School Community Center as a Civic and/or Service Association under the local options small games of chance act. Motion by D. Petrarca, second by D. Rapp. All ayes, motion carries.
7. Motion to approve providing the Swissvale Mile a one-time grant in the amount of \$1,000. Motion by T. Ward, second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
8. Motion to ratify the renewal of the Boroughs General Liability, Vehicle and Casualty Insurance Policies with Duncan Insurance Group in the amount of \$90,520. Motion by P. Gionta, second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
8. Finance Report – Councilman Tim Ward
 - Paid Bills as of **March 31st, 2019** in the amount of **\$ 347,478.11**.
 - Unpaid Bills as of **March 31st, 2019** in the amount of **\$ 380,771.19**.
 - Motion by T. Ward, second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
9. Police Report
 1. The police report is on file in the Manager’s Office
 2. If anyone is interested, the borough is still accepting applications for the Citizen’s Police Academy. It is set to take place on April 28th and run through May and June. So far the police department has received only one new application.
10. Code and Fire Report
 1. The code and fire report is on file in the Manager’s Office
 2. The next community CPR class will take place at 4pm on Saturday May 11th at the Fire Station.
 3. The Fish Fry is every Friday until April 18th.
 - i. Chief Wilhelm wanted to clear up some confusion about the revenues from the Fish Fry. The revenue from the Fish Fry is used to offset the

cost of the mortgage on the Fire Department's building which is owned by the Volunteer Fire Department.

11. Public Works Report

1. The public works report is on file in the Manager's Office
2. Street sweeping began on April 2nd and will follow the same schedule as the previous year. Residents will receive warnings for the first two weeks with parking tickets starting April 15th. Residents are asked to move their cars between the hours of 8AM-12PM.
3. Volunteers will be needed on Clean Up day May 18th. They will be given shirts and materials necessary to clean up around the borough. Volunteers will meet in the Police Department Garage.
4. Councilwoman Salisbury has received a few phone calls from residents concerned about litter. They are worried that it is because residents can no longer use plastic bags for their recycling. Mr. Bachy explained that the litter residents are seeing is typical at this time of year as we transition from winter to spring. The litter that people are seeing is stuff that cannot be recycled. The litter will clear up once the street sweeper has been out more consistently.

12. Outstanding Complaints – none

13. C.O.G Report – Tim Ward

1. The COG discussed the difficulty municipal police departments have hiring new officers and maintaining their departments. They discussed creating regional police departments. There will be a meeting in Monroeville on Monday April 29th at 10 am on this topic.
2. The Vector will be available starting May 1st.

14. President's Remarks

1. President Stanton would like to address the live recording of council meetings going forward. She wants to know how it would be done and who would be responsible.
 - i. Councilwoman Salisbury said that it could be as simple as a Facebook live recording.
 - ii. Other members of council have suggested that it could be on the website or that the borough could look into creating a YouTube page.
2. Due to the Mayor's absence, the Proclamation for Library Week was read by Council President Stanton

15. Mayor's Report

1. none

16. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins

1. The report is on file in the Manager's Office
2. The authority is currently in negotiations with the union.
3. They have started replacing/repairing meters.
4. The Solicitor is in the process of preparing documents for the residents of Woodstock Terrace that will allow the authority to repair the street. Mr. Grandizio who was present at last week's meeting was made aware of this.
5. There were two water main breaks in the borough between 2/26 and 3/26.

17. Planning Commission – Greg Bachy

1. There was no meeting last month due to a lack of agenda items.

2. The Commission is planning to meet next month to review an application submitted by engineers from Allegheny County concerning the access road at Carrie Furnace
18. Solicitor's Report – Robert McTiernan
1. Needs to meet with council in executive session
19. Engineer's Report –
1. The committee that was facilitated through 3 Rivers wet weather, consisting of engineers and solicitors, has met several times over the last couple months to discuss the second draft of the Phase II Consent Orders. The draft with all recommended changes was submitted to the Pennsylvania DEP last week. A group met with the DEP to present the draft and they now await a response. Once it is sent back to the committee it is then given to the municipalities for review.
20. Borough Manager's Report – Clyde Wilhelm
1. Mr. Wilhelm had a second meeting today with members of the American Legion to discuss the veteran's monument that is located at the corner of the municipal building at Roslyn Street and South Braddock Avenue. They proposed that it could be moved to the parklette at the corner of Church and South Braddock and that parklette could be named "Veteran's Park". They are offering \$1500 to offset the costs of moving the monument.
 - i. They have also offered an additional \$500 as seed money to start a banner program to showcase Veterans in the area.
 2. In a previous meeting we discussed the resignation of a full time police officer. Since that time two part time officers have also resigned. This has created a problem with the parking tickets for street sweeping days. Mr. Wilhelm and Chief Watson have discussed different options and want council's approval before moving forward.
 - i. Council agrees that it would be best to give the duty to a member of the Code Department and hire a new code enforcement officer to write parking tickets.
 3. Mr. Wilhelm has requested to meet with members of council in executive session to discuss matters of personnel and possible litigation.
21. Unfinished Business
1. Swissvale Mile Route Changes
 - i. Council does not need to vote on this issue and it was already reviewed and approved by the police chief
22. New Business
1. Members of council want to get together to discuss available dates and times for community listening sessions
 - i. Members of the audience have asked for earlier start times and possibly weekend dates as well.
23. Motion to Adjourn – P. Gionta, second J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
24. Meeting Adjourned at 8:00 PM.