



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

December 27, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.
 2. Roll Call - P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – here, D. Swartzwelder – absent, M. Busch – here, T. Ward – here, M. Stanton – here
 - a. Rapp – here (7:02 pm)
 3. Public Comment
 - a. None
 4. Agenda Items:
 - a. Motion to adopt **Resolution 17-17** adopting the 2018 budget. Moved by T. Ward, Second by M. Busch. All ayes, motion carries.
 - b. Motion to adopt **Ordinance 17-08** revising the Borough's Sanitary Sewer Rate Structure to reflect ALCOSAN's increased rate of 7.5% for 2018 to charge \$15.99 per quarter plus an additional fee of \$7.43 for each 1,000 gallons of water usage for each meter in the Borough. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by M. Busch. All ayes, motion carries.
 - c. Motion to adopt **Ordinance 17-09**, setting the tax rate for fiscal year 2018 for General Purposes at 8.0 mills. Moved by M. Busch, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
 - d. Motion to re-hire Karl Kinkopf as a part-time police officer at the contractual rate of \$15.50 per hour. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
 5. POLICE REPORT – ASST. CHIEF WATSON
 - a. Report on file in Borough Manager's Office.
 - b. An incident occurred on Columbia Ave on 12/26/17. Two individuals were shot and killed. Chief Watson commends the responding officers for doing an excellent job. He also thanks the Fire Department and Eastern Area Hospital Service for their help at the scene. Three people were arrested
-

for their involvement in the shooting. Additional evidence was recovered this morning. The Allegheny County Police are confident that the case will go to trial.

- c. Officers also responded to a fire on S. Braddock Ave. The police worked well with the fire department and were able to help get residents out of the structure safely.

6. CODE AND FIRE REPORT – CHIEF WILHELM

- a. Mr. Wilhelm elaborated on the fire on S. Braddock Ave. This was a three alarm fire where a bedridden woman living in a basement apartment was smoking in bed. The police arrived first and were able to help the woman out of the building as well as a second resident on the basement level. Three officers were treated for smoke inhalation at the scene. One officer was transported to the hospital as a precautionary measure. Chief Watson and Chief Wilhelm would like to give a commendation to the four officers for saving the two individuals from the building. Over 75 fire fighters responded to the scene. The fire was contained to the original bedroom which prevented further damage to the building.
- b. The Insurance Service Office (ISO) recently issued a new Public Protection Class (PPC) rating for Swissvale. The SFD was evaluated in August and received a new ISO-PPC rating of Class 2 (effective 3/1/18), having shown significant improvements since its evaluation in 2013 when it received a Class 3 rating. Of Allegheny County's 130 municipalities, only two departments are rated higher—the City of Pittsburgh and Mt. Lebanon are rated as Class 1. Class 1 represents superior property fire protection and Class 10 indicates that the area's fire-suppression program doesn't meet ISO's minimum criteria.

7. PUBLIC WORKS REPORT – GREG BACHY

- a. Report on file in Borough Manager's Office.
- b. Beginning January 2 and continuing through January 19, crews from the Department of Public Works will collect Christmas trees throughout the borough. Trees should be placed with trash on the regular trash day. They will be collected separately from trash. Trees must be free of ornaments and tinsel. All trees will be shredded into mulch. Any resident who would like to obtain the mulch for their personal use may call 412-271-0350 to make arrangements.

8. BOROUGH MANAGER – CLYDE WILHELM

- a. Asked for a brief executive session concerning legal matters.

9. SOLICITOR REPORT – DAVID MONGILLO

- a. The solicitor's office recently filed a declaration to condemn both S. Braddock parcels at the old Frankie's location. Favorable appraisals were received for these parcels.
 - b. The solicitor's office will be in court soon for the Collingwood playground property to exonerate the property's taxes. An agreement has already been obtained from the Woodland Hills School District and Allegheny County.
 10. Council President Stanton presented a Service Award to M. Busch, thanking him for his years of service on behalf of the borough.
 11. MOTION TO ADJOURN – Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
 12. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:11 pm.
-