



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 7, 2018

- A public hearing for the conditional use request for the Still-Mill Microdistillery proposed at 2033 Noble Street was held starting at 7:00 p.m.
 - 1. Meeting called to order at 7:12 p.m.
 - 2. Invocation – Pastor Dave Swanson
 - 3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilwoman Abigail Salisbury
 - 4. Roll Call – P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here (via phone through Agenda Item “a.”), J. Grose – here, M. Stanton – here, A. Salisbury – here, T. Ward – here, D. Rapp – here, D. Swartzwelder – here
 - 5. Public Comment
 - a. None
 - 6. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes for the *Special Council Meeting* on December 29, 2017 and the *Reorganization & Regular Council Meeting* on January 2, 2018. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
 - 7. Agenda Items:
 - a. Motion to appoint Charles Ellis Watson as Borough of Swissvale Chief of Police at an annual salary in the amount of \$86,058. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by T. Ward.
 - i. Roll Call – P. Gionta – yes, D. Petrarca – yes, J. Grose – yes, M. Stanton – yes, A. Salisbury – yes, T. Ward – yes, D. Rapp – yes
 - ii. All ayes, motion carries.
 - iii. Mayor Swartzwelder led Chief Watson in reciting the oath of office.
 - b. Motion to approve a change order with Construction Engineering Consultants, Inc. for additional engineering for the South Braddock Ave TAP Project in the amount of \$13,105.00. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
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- c. Motion to advertise a public hearing for an inter-municipal transfer of a liquor license for KEAH, LLC, owner of 7365 Denniston Avenue (aka the old VFW building) to be held February 28, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
- d. Motion to approve a conditional use request for the Still-Mill Microdistillery proposed at 2033 Noble Street with condition that the tasting room and retail sales area will close by 11 p.m. Moved by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
- e. Motion to award the contract for reconstruction of the Collingwood Playground to Sports and Recreation Associates in the amount of \$131,681. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
- f. Motion to adopt **Resolution 18-01** for a Vacant Property Recovery Program Application for a vacant structure located at 2115 Columbia Avenue. Moved by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
- g. Motion to adopt **Resolution 18-02** to implement a Comprehensive Fee Schedule for the Borough of Swissvale. Moved by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
- h. Motion to adopt **Resolution 18-03** to submit a CITF grant application in the amount of \$200,000 for improvements to the Municipal Parking Lot and surrounding area. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
- i. Motion to approve The Farmer's Market and The Swissvale Mile as borough sanctioned events. Moved by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
- j. Motion to approve the part-time addendum to the collective bargaining agreement with the Swissvale Police Officers Association. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
- k. Motion to approve the terms of a 4 year contract extension with the Swissvale Firefighters Local 1680, pending review of solicitors. Moved by P. Gionta, Second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.

8. Finance Report – Councilman Tim Ward

- Paid Bills as of **January 31, 2018** in the amount of **\$ \$289,130.90**.
 - Unpaid Bills as of **January 31, 2018** in the amount of **\$ 52,544.76**.
 - Motion to accept the financial report by T. Ward, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.
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9. Police Report – Councilwoman Patricia Gionta, Chief Watson

- a. Councilwoman Gionta read a report on the actions taken by police officers on December 14, 2017.
- b. Commendations were presented to Officer Nickolas Kalogeris, Detective Justin Keenan, Officer Fred King, Officer Jake Smith and Officer Nate Smith by Mayor Swartzwelder.
- c. Chief Watson expressed his pride in the work of the officers.
- d. Chief Watson and Councilman Ward attended a community meeting in Rankin focused on recent gun violence. Many community groups are trying to work on positive solutions to the problem.
- e. Chief Watson, Councilwoman Gionta and Councilman Petrarca met with Woodland Hills Superintendant Alan Johnson regarding concerns with several children who have been causing problems while walking home from school from the intermediate building.
- f. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's office.

10. Code and Fire Report – Councilwoman Michele Stanton, Asst. Chief Deleonibus

- a. Code enforcement has been focusing on fire prevention.
- b. The fire department held a special training event with Dr. Richard Gassaway, a renowned speaker on situational awareness. The event was held on February 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Western PA School for the Deaf and was attended by 135 people from 33 different agencies.
- c. The SVFD Lenten Fish Fry begins on Wednesday, February 14 and continues every Friday through March 30. There is a contest on TheIncline.com to name the "Ultimate Pittsburgh Fish Fry." Everyone is encouraged to vote.

11. Public Works Report – Councilman David Petrarca, Mr. Greg Bachy

- a. Report is on file in the Borough Manager's Office
- b. In the month of January there were 18 snow and ice events, 175 hours of over-time and 700 tons of salt were used.
- c. Clean-Up Day is scheduled for May 19. ECS&R is sending contract documents for hauling away all of the materials after the event. Dumpster will be located at Memorial Park. There will also be a volunteer clean up event in other areas of the borough to pick up trash. The event is for Swissvale residents only.

12. Outstanding Complaints Report – None

13. C.O.G. Report – Councilman Darrell Rapp

- a. The annual C.O.G. dinner was held last week. The C.O.G. executive director thanked Mr. Wilhelm and Mr. Bachy specifically for their work and support of the C.O.G.
- b. The C.O.G. received an EPA assessment grant.
- c. The land bank is in the process of setting up acquisitions of properties.
- d. The C.O.G. received a grant from Senator Costa for police training.
- e. The C.O.G. is asking for support for the ALOM conference. J. Grose made a motion for Swissvale to become an ALOM Silver Sponsor at \$500. Second, T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.

14. President's Remarks – President Stanton

- a. Congratulates Chief Watson!

15. Mayor's Report – Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder

- a. Invited everyone to Goodfella's after the meeting to celebrate the appointment of Chief Watson and the recognized police officers.
- b. March 31 is the annual Easter Egg Hunt at noon at Memorial Park.
- c. Community Days is a week earlier than usual this year on June 15 & 16. It may change locations depending on renovations at Dickson School.
- d. The Farmer's Market begins in June and will move to the Noble Street Lot.

16. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins

- a. From December 12 to January 21 there were 2,100 hours of overtime worked to make repairs to Water Authority lines and to break up ice on the river.
- b. The Whipple Street main line went out for bid on January 30 and will be awarded February 27. The Church Street line is also going out for bid. The Woodstock line was advertised and bid opening occurred on February 2.
- c. From November to January 21 there were 125 breaks across the Water Authority service area.
- d. In Swissvale, from December 17 to January 30 there were a total of 6 main line breaks on Woodstock Ave, Wilkins Ave and Columbia Ave.

17. Planning Commission – Greg Bachy

- a. There is a meeting coming up at 7:00 p.m. on February 15 for the site plan review for the renovation of Dickson School.

18. Solicitor Report – Robert McTiernan

- a. Tom Barr is applying for a bond as he is required to do by law. Motion to approve **Resolution 18-04** confirming that Mr. Barr is the elected real estate tax collector for the borough. Moved by T. Ward, Second by D. Rapp. All ayes, motion carries.

19. Engineer Report – Robert Zischkau

- a. Three Rivers Wet Weather asked the borough to submit a resolution. Motion by D. Rapp to approve **Resolution 18-05** joining with other similar affected municipal bodies within the ALCOSAN service area to help create a unified approach to source reduction efforts, and adopting a source reduction study as required by the phase I consent order and agreement. Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.

20. Borough Manager Report – Clyde Wilhelm

- a. Motion to approve the installation of an electrical service at the Noble St. parking lot for the Farmer's Market at a cost not to exceed \$2,000 out of the Capital Improvement Fund. Moved by T. Ward, Second by J. Grose. All ayes, motion carries.
- b. Mr. Wilhelm requested to meet with council in executive session for legal matters following the meeting.

21. Unfinished Business

22. New Business

23. Council met on January 31 for matters of personnel and legal.

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

25. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.
