



**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

November 1, 2017

1. Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm.
 2. Invocation – Tracey Crombie-Collins
 3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilman David Petrarca
 4. Roll Call - P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – absent,
D. Swartzwelder – here, M. Busch – here, T. Ward – here, M. Stanton – here
 - a. Rapp – here (7:03 pm)
 5. Public Comment
 - a. Paul Yesko (7698 Evans St.) – Mr. Yesko would like to thank all veterans, police, fire and EMT. Proposed placing a new stop sign or “do not block intersection” sign at Lilmont and Woodstock corner.
 6. Approval of Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes for the *Agenda Meeting* on September 27, 2017 and the *Regular Meeting* on October 4, 2017. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
 7. Agenda Items:
 - a. Motion to ratify the hiring of Steven Sluzynsky as a part-time firefighter at the contractual base rate of \$13.65 per hour. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by T. Ward. All ayes, motion carries.
 - b. Motion to adopt Ordinance #17-07 repealing and replacing in their entirety all current provisions of Chapter 22 – Subdivision and Land Development of the Borough of Swissvale Code of Ordinances and replacing the same with a new Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
 - c. Motion to approve Resolution 17-15, authorizing the company card line of credit increase to \$25,000 with First Commonwealth Bank. Moved by T.
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Ward. Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.

- d. Motion to accept and approve the retirement of Police Chief Gregory Geppert. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
- e. Motion to appoint Asst. Chief Ellis Watson as interim Chief of Police. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by D. Petrarca. All ayes, motion carries.
- f. Motion to advertise Chief of Police position. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by D. Petrarca.
 - i. Question from Mayor Swartzwelder: What are the desired requirements and experience for the position? Mr. Wilhelm distributed the job description that has been prepared. The advertisement was prepared from this description.
 - ii. Motion by D. Rapp to table advertising Chief of Police position. Motion failed for lack of a second.
 - iii. Roll Call on original motion: P. Gionta – yes, D. Petrarca – yes, Rapp – no, M. Busch – yes, T. Ward – yes, M. Stanton – yes. Motion carries.

8. Finance Report – Councilman Martin Busch

- Paid Bills as of **October 31, 2017** in the amount of **\$ 938,009.50**.
- Unpaid Bills as of **October 31, 2017** in the amount of **\$ 226,973.93**.
- Motion to approve the financial report by M. Busch, Second by P. Gionta. All ayes, motion carries.

9. Police Report – Councilwoman Patricia Gionta, Asst. Chief Watson

- a. Report on file in the Borough Manager's office.

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

- a. Report on file in the Borough Manager's office.
 - b. October was a busy month for CPR classes. There were three classes including both community classes and borough employee classes.
 - c. Friday, November 3rd, is the final fish fry of the year.
 - d. Mr. Deleonibus displayed the “2017 Community Partner of the Year” award received by the Volunteer Fire Department from MVI. The department also received a citation from the Pennsylvania House of
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Representatives, recognizing the SVFD as the oldest, largest and most experienced volunteer organization in Swissvale.

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

- a. Report on file in the Borough Manager's office.
- b. The borough engineer and staff conducted a walkthrough of the 2017 paving project to address any deficiencies. This will conclude the project.
- c. Leaf collection began on Monday, October 30th and will continue through Friday, December 8th, weather permitting.

12. Outstanding Complaints Report – None

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

- a. Nothing to report.

14. President's Remarks – President Stanton

- a. Wishes Chief Geppert congratulations on his retirement after 29 years of service in the Swissvale Police Department.

15. Mayor's Report – Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder

- a. Also wishes Chief Geppert all the best in his retirement. Welcomes Chief Watson as interim chief.
- b. Thanks everyone who attended the Halloween parade. About 70 residents participated despite poor weather. Thanks all the volunteers, police and fire department.
- c. Don't forget to change clocks on November 5th. Change batteries in smoke detectors.
- d. Night of Lights is December 2nd starting at 5:30 pm, with tree lighting at 6:00 pm.
- e. The Rotary Club is hosting a Swissvale Holiday Stroll through the business district in connection with Night of Lights from 3:30 – 5:30 pm.
- f. Don't forget to vote November 7th.

16. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins

- a. Presented a year-to-date budget financial report, bylaws and organization chart of the Water Authority to council.
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- b. The paving project for the Church Street main line replacement contract is out for bid and may be completed in 2018.
- c. They are looking at the Whipple Street paving project for 2018.
- d. WPJWA will be replacing 400 fire hydrants. Mr. Wilhelm asked that the hydrants be fitted with Storz couplings to accommodate the larger 5 inch diameter hoses.
- e. Thanks council for the opportunity to serve on the Water Authority Board.

17. Planning Commission – Mr. Greg Bachy

- a. No report.

18. Solicitor Report – Robert McTiernan

- a. No report.

19. Engineer Report – Robert Zischkau

- a. The engineer issued notice to the contractor to proceed with the demolition of 2622 Woodstock Ave. Arrangements are being made to abate asbestos and demolition should begin in the next few weeks.
- b. Received advanced information from Alcosan that they are expecting to raise rates by 7.5% next year.
- c. Mr. Rapp asked about the rebid of the Collingwood playground. The engineer is continuing to work on the redesign for the Collingwood Playground and will submit it to the borough for review. Looking to take bids in December and complete the project in 2018.

20. Borough Manager Report – Clyde Wilhelm

- a. Received the signed Police contract.
- b. Mr. Rapp asked about the air quality analysis for the Hohman Cleaners building. The report is not complete. Mr. Wilhelm is coordinating a meeting with Mr. Bachy and the TCVCOG to go over preliminary results.
- c. Mr. Rapp asked about the possible changes proposed by PennDot to the entrance to the parkway. There is no new information.
- d. Kenmawr Bridge Update – The borough has not received new information from PennDot on the project.

21. Unfinished Business

- a. Ms. Gionta – There are still piles of bricks on Monroe where the gas company has been working. The gas company is doing restoration work and is required to replace the bricks.

22. New Business

- a. Mr. Ward – Dai Morgan contacted Mr. Ward about the Farmer's Market. The Market will not be able to use Dickson School's lot in 2018. They are exploring alternative locations. Pastor Morgan asked the borough to consider allowing the Market to use the Noble Street lot.

23. Motion to adjourn. Moved by P. Gionta. Second by M. Busch. All ayes, motion carries.

24. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.
