

## BOROUGH OFFICERS

*Mayor*

DENEEN SWARTZWELDER

*Borough Manager*

CLYDE WILHELM

*Solicitor*

ROBERT L. MCTIERNAN

*Treasurer*

CITIZENS BANK



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## **BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**February 4, 2015**

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

MARTIN F. BUSCH - *President*

MICHELE K. STANTON - *Vice President*

*Members*

PATRICIA L. GIONTA

JULIE A. GROSE

DAVID PETRARCA

DARRELL RAPP

1. President calls the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
  2. Invocation – Reverend Dai Morgan, Swissvale United Methodist Church.
  3. Pledge of Allegiance – Councilwoman Julie Gross
  4. Roll Call – P. Gionta – here, D. Petrarca – here, J. Grose – here, D. Rapp – here, M. Stanton – here, M. Busch – here, Mayor Swartzwelder – here. Absent – S. Hanchett.
  5. Public Comment
    - a. Aidan Gempke – 2109 Delaware Ave – Interested in performing a Community Service project toward a Life Scout badge for Boy Scouts. Will install Storm Drain Markers to remind residents that Storm drains should not be used to dump anything as this empties into the river and will pollute clean water sources.
    - b. Margaret Poindexter – 7809 Westmoreland Ave – Thank you to council for final resolution in the ongoing sewer problem. Also, want to ask that residents be reminded to clear ice and snow from sidewalks. *Recommendation* – Call Borough Office with addresses of offenders and Code enforcement can follow up.
    - c. Leland Scales – Asks Council to consider several vacant properties to be used for a Community Garden project sponsored by Swissvale Community Empowerment Group “Reach Up”. Discussion followed.
    - d. Frank Berry – 7326 Schley Ave. – Questions the termination of Assistant Chief James Barca. Council policy is not to discuss issues of personnel and other confidential matters in a public setting.
    - e. Randall Thomas – Homestead Resident – Also asked the circumstances relating to the release of Assistant Chief Barca. Council reiterated the policy concerning personnel issues.
    - f. Ron Carr – Member of Homestead VFD – Here to show support for Assistant Chief Barca.
  6. Approval of Minutes – by M. Stanton and second by P. Gionta to approve *Regular Council Meeting* held on January 7, 2015 and the *Agenda Meeting* held on January 28, 2015. Motion carried.
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- Motion by P. Gionta and second by J. Grose to hire David Ernst as Part-time Police Officer. Motion carried.
  - 7. Agenda Items:
    - Motion by M. Stanton to approve **RESOLUTION 15-02** adopting a Fund Balance Policy, second by J. Grose. Motion carried.
    - Motion by P. Gionta to approve **RESOLUTION 15-03** authorizing the application for Grant Funding through the Turtle Creek Valley COG to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County for the Park Avenue Gateway Site Recreational Development –Phase II Project, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by J. Grose to authorize the Borough Manager to enter into an agreement with Turtle Creek Valley COG for Vector Services, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by D. Petrarca to ratify bid award to Central Salt, LLC, the lowest responsible bidder at \$97.26 per ton for road salt, second by P. Gionta. Motion carried.
    - Motion by P. Gionta to authorize registration and associated fees for the attendance of Borough Officials to the Allegheny League of Municipalities Conference at Seven Springs April 9-12, 2015, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by M. Stanton to accept resignation of Councilwoman Sharon Hanchett, second by P. Gionta. Motion carried.
    - Motion by D. Petrarca to advertise for letters of interest from residents to be considered for appointment to the open council seat, second by D.Rapp. Motion carried.
      - Advertising will direct the letters to be submitted before Agenda meeting on 2/25/15, Vote will take place at Council meeting on 3/4/15.
    - Motion by J. Grose to appoint Pamela Schmidbauer to the Civil Service Commission for the three year term expiring 1-1-2018, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by D. Petrarca to appoint David Nickel to the Planning Commission for a one year term expiring 1-1-16, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by P. Gionta to appoint Lisa Whitney to the Planning Commission for a three term expiring 1-1-18, second by J. Grose. Motion carried.
    - Motion by D. Petrarca to re-appoint George Petty to the Planning Commission for a four year term to expire on 1-1-19, second by J. Grose. Motion carried.
    - Motion by M. Stanton to re-appoint Veryl Lawson to the Planning Commission for a four year term to expire on 1-1-19, second by J. Grose. Motion carried.
    - Motion by D. Petrarca to re-appoint Dan Mulholland to the Zoning Board of Adjustment for a five year term to expire 1-1-20, second by M. Stanton. Motion carried.
    - Motion by M. Stanton to appoint Benjamin Davidson to the Zoning Hearing Board of Adjustment for a one year term to expire 1-1-16, second by J. Grose. Motion carried.
    - Motion M. Stanton to appoint Eric Fritzberg to the IPMC Board of Appeals for a three year term to expire on 1-1-18, second by J Grose. Motion carried.
  - 8. Finance Report – Motion to accept by M. Stanton the following
    - Paid Bills as of **January 31, 2015** in the amount of **\$233,200.15**
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- Unpaid Bills as of **January 31, 2015** in the amount of **\$77,314.65** second by P. Gionta. Motion carried.
  - Yearly audit is currently in process
9. Police Report – Councilwoman P. Gionta – On file in Manager’s Office
  10. Code and Fire Report – Councilwoman M. Stanton – On file in Manager’s Office
  11. Public Works Report – Councilman D. Petrarca - On file in Manager’s Office
    - Interim Director of Public Works – Rob Wiswell
      1. Bucket truck has been repaired in house at a considerable savings.
      2. Salt has been ordered and is arriving regularly
      3. Pot holes filled
      4. Recycle truck is repaired and back on schedule
      5. Concerns about property on Agnes Street addressed.
  12. Economics and Development Report – Councilwoman J. Grose
    - a. No meeting in January will resume monthly meetings on third Tuesday beginning February 17, 2015.
  13. CONNECT Report – Councilman D. Rapp
    - a. Report to be filed next business day in Manager’s office.
  14. Outstanding Complaints Report –
    - a. Milligan Avenue homes damaged by fire have been demolished.
  15. Recreation Committee Report – Councilman D. Rapp
    - a. Meeting with YMCA for Summer 2015
    - b. Meeting with Recreation board to update policies.
  16. C.O.G. Report – Councilman D. Rapp
    - a. Reminder of billing capabilities available through C.O.G.
  17. President’s Remarks – President M. Busch
    - a. Compliments to the DPW for the efforts these past weeks in maintaining roads covered with snow and ice.
  18. Mayor’s Report – Mayor D. Swartzwelder
    - a. Newsletter is in edit phase and will be available on 3/1/15.
    - b. Farmer’s Market will open on 5/9/15.
    - c. Encourage all to join Rotary Club, meetings at 6:15 pm on 2/11 and 2/18 at T’s Restaurant in Swissvale.
    - d. Will be attending the 2/26/15 Community Meeting at the School for the Deaf, any information that should be presented, see mayor.
  19. Water Authority Report – Anthony Russo Sr. – No Report
  20. Planning Commission – Veryl Lawson – No Report
    - a. Commission will meet the third Thursday each month in the meeting room at the Fire Department.
  21. Solicitor Report – R. McTiernan
    - a. Go ahead and add the specific blocks of South Braddock to the Residential parking permit resolution brought forward last week in the Agenda meeting.
    - b. Advertising for the Amusement Tax – going forward
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- c. Of Note: Ken Gormley nominated to PA Supreme Court, from Swissvale.
22. Engineer Report – Robert Zischkau
- a. Kenmawr Bridge project is under the supervision of PennDot with no costs to Swissvale.
  - b. Invoices are required pertaining to the Demolition of 2328 (Escrow) and 2332 (COG) Milligan in order to lien properties.
  - c. Washington Bridge Project is in conjunction with Kenmawr Project, expects to begin in early March.
23. Borough Manager Report – C. Wilhelm
- a. Working with Mr. Foreman -DCED early intervention
  - b. Email addresses for each Council member in packets, call office if you need assistance in set up. Business cards are also ordered for each Council member.
  - c. Council members need to confirm attendance to ALOM Spring Conference, registrations needed ASAP.
  - d. Various Financial Policies are being worked on with Ms Werksman, will be brought before Council for review.
24. Unfinished Business
- a. Meeting with Big's Sanitation on 2/2/15 – Discussed outstanding complaints from residents and reviewed the survey results.
25. New Business - None
26. Motion by P. Gionta and second by M. Stanton to adjourn Meeting, motion carried.
27. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.
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