

Schwenksville Borough Council Meeting  
Thursday February 11, 2021 at 7:00pm via Zoom

Council President Darren Rash call the Schwenksville Borough Council Meeting on. February 11, 2021 to order at 7:00pm via ZOOM, Schwenksville, PA 19473

Present, Darren Rash, Lee Ann Miller, Sarah Knickerbocker, Chris Melville, and Mayor Joe Giunta

Also, present, Engineer Dave Leh, Solicitor Wendy McKenna, Borough Manager Anne Klepfer and Borough Secretary-Treasurer Gail Phillips

Absent:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dispense with Salute to the Flag.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS & SPECIAL BUSINESS

Meeting Announcements for Darren Rash: I want to thank everybody for attending.

Due to the Corona Virus Covid-19 Restrictions on public gatherings and the ineffectiveness of Social Distancing in borough Hall, Schwenksville Borough will be conducting Monthly Borough Council Meeting On-line via Zoom.

Participants are asked. To Authenticate by signing into Zoom to avoid "Zoom Bombers"  
Borough Hall is closed to the Public until further notice.

On-line Meetings are permitted in accordance with Emergency Declarations for a pandemic. People wishing to make public comments should utilize the "raise your hand" feature on Zoom to be recognized and then unmute yourself once recognized.

The Meeting will be Recorded and Meeting Minutes will be kept as usual. The written meeting minutes will be the official record of the meeting after they are approved at a subsequent meeting and the recordings will be deleted.

**Mayor's Report:** State Police Report for January 2021 – 43 incidents.

Mayor Giunta stated that he will not be seeking reelection when his term is up at the end of 2021. His notary license will soon expire and is asking Council if they would reimburse the cost of the license if Council would like him to continue to be the Borough's notary, the cost is about \$500. Council knows Kim at the Authority is a Notary and someone will speak to her about sharing the cost for her license.

Trooper Miree has been invited to the March Council meeting.

Mayor Giunta was newly appointed to the Borough Authority and attended the meeting last night virtually. The Mayor stated: "I want to clear the air because there seems to be some

consternation down there about the potential sale of the Authority, although it's been privately talked about but not publicly. I would like to go on record as a newly appointed member of the Borough Authority that should the opportunity present itself to sell the Authority, I would be in favor of that to a bonified water company and hooking up with the County or Lower Frederick Sewer System only and if only the following conditions are met. 1. Sale of the water company which generates substantial proceeds and by substantial, I mean in the millions of dollars. 2. Those proceeds would be used to fix present problems with the streets, roads and infrastructure of the Borough and the balance escrowed in an investment account with future withdrawals coming from interest and dividend generated by that escrow. 3. The Borough property taxes would be reduced. 4. Authority employees would be guaranteed employment with the new entity. 5. The present water and sewer rates would not be affected substantially. I do not have a vote on this but am urging Borough Council to explore that possibility to talk to an independent totally unbiased company that can do an investigation of whether or not this is feasible.

**Fire Company/Fire Marshal/EC/Ambulance Reports:** Chris Melville

**Emergency Management and Fire Marshal** – updating the EOP which is an annual requirement. Limerick Drill will occur in November. Continue to seek assistance for Centennial Street flood mitigation as well as a backup generator source for Borough Hall and Emergency Operations Center.

**EMS Calls:** Chief Trojansky Plymouth Ambulance. 18 calls for Schwenksville 6 for Greenfield.

**VACANCY APPOINTMENTS – RESOLUTION 2021-07**

SCHWENKSVILLE BOROUGH  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
RESOLUTION NO. 2021-07

A RESOLUTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF APPOINTING INDIVIDUALS TO FILL VACANCIES ON BOROUGH COUNCIL AND OR ANY ADVISORY BOARD, COMMITTEE, COMMISSION OR TASK FORCE

WHEREAS, SECTION 901 OF THE BOROUGH CODE STATES after accepting a resignation, “Council shall fill the vacancy within 30 days by appointing, by resolution, a registered elector of the borough

;” and

WHEREAS, SECTION 901 OF THE BOROUGH CODE STATES the appoint shall be made through “the first Monday in January after the first municipal election occurring more than 60 days after the vacancy occurs;” and

WHEREAS, Maureen Harte resigned from Borough Council effective 12/31/2020; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council accepted her resignation at a public meeting held on January 14, 2021; and

WHEREAS, vacancies exist on other advisory boards, committees, commissions and task forces;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

1. Borough Council Term ending December 31, 2025 - Brett Forcine is hereby appointed through January 3, 2022.
2. Borough Auditor Term ending December 31, 2024 - Jerry Giannini hereby appointed through January 3, 2022.
3. Borough Planning Commission Term ending December 31, 2023 – Brian Pippert is hereby appointed through December 31, 2023.
4. Borough Park Board Term ending December 31, 2025
5. Vacancy Board Term ending December 31, 2021  
VACANT is hereby appointed through December 31, 2021.
6. VACANT ending \_\_\_\_\_ -  
\_\_\_\_\_ is hereby appointed through \_\_\_\_\_.

RESOLVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2021 BY:

SCHWENSKVILLE BOROUGH COUNCIL

\_\_\_\_\_  
Darren W. Rash, Council President

ATTEST

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail L. Phillips, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Giunta, Mayor

**Motion** to Adopt Resolution No. 2021-07 by Lee Ann Miller and **Second** by Sarah Knickerbocker and unanimously **approved 4-0**.

**Public Forum** – Jerry Giannini introduced himself to Council.

**Engineer’s Report:** Dave Leh reported that the TA Set A Side – Maple to Walnut is under review for approval by PENNDOT.

**Clearfield Avenue to Mine Hill Road** – letters and exhibit were sent to the residents about the drainage concerns. A Zoom meeting was held with the residents who responded to discuss their concerns. Authorize to go out to bid and award in April for the road project Clearfield to Mine Hill. **Motion** Chris Melville **second** Lee Ann Miller to authorize Gilmore and Associates to go out to bid for the project. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0**.

Mr. Melville asked Mr. Leh for an update on the louvers on the traffic signal at Game Farm and Main. Gilmore is working with PennDOT and should have an answer in a couple of weeks.

**Solicitor’s Report:** Wendy Feiss-McKenna reported that their office looked at the Borough Code regarding the School Crossing Guard. At this time the Borough is responsible for hiring and

paying the crossing guard with the School District being invoiced for half of the wages. She explained that the Borough can request that the School District ask to take over the responsibility for hiring a crossing guard for Schwenksville Elementary School. If the School District agrees and submits that request, then the Borough will need to adopt an Ordinance authorizing/granting the request. **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah Knickerbocker for Perkiomen Valley School District to take over the responsibility for hiring and paying the crossing guard for Schwenksville Elementary School. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0.** The Borough and Solicitor's office will be asking the Perkiomen Valley School District to adopt a Resolution for them to take over the hiring of the Schwenksville Elementary School Crossing Guard. Mrs. Klepfer will draft a letter for the Solicitor to review.

**Action Items- Motion's, Resolutions, Authorizations:**

**Minutes:** Dispense with the reading of the January 14, 2021 Meeting minutes and January 14, 2021 and approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Chris Melville. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Treasurer's Report:** Gail Phillips submitted the Treasurer report for the period ending January 31, 2021, the current invoices for payment total \$53,134.24. this includes \$18,293.91 from the General Fund, \$10,589.68 payroll and taxes, \$22,942.36 from Capital Fund and \$1,308.29 from Liquid Fuels. **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Chris Melville to pay the invoices and payroll totaling \$53,134.24. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Approval of EIT Exemptions for Qualified Emergency Responders.** Adam Slater, Ian Frederick, Christopher Melville and Neil Saunderson. **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah Knickerbocker **Motion carried 3-0** with Chris Melville abstaining due to a conflict of interest as a member of the Lower Frederick Fire Company. Anne will sign their papers and have them returned to them. Thank you to all the volunteers.

**Resolution No. 2021-06** – A resolution Establishing Compensation for the Tax Collector for the 2022-2025 Term. **Motion** Chris Melville **second** Lee Ann Miller to adopt Resolution No 2021-06. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Accept resignation of Adrien Tierson from Crossing Guard Position** – **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Chris Melville to accept the resignation from Adrien Tierson as crossing guard. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0.** Mrs. Klepfer to send Mr. Tierson a letter thanking him for his service.

**Approved Contract with Borough Authority for Maintenance Services** – **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Chris Melville to sign the contract with the authority for Maintenance Services. All in favor. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**MANAGER'S REPORT:**

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**Finance Report-** For the fiscal period January 1, 2021 through January 31, 2021 Total Income for General Fund and Liquid Fuels Fund was \$11,012.87 and total Expenditures was \$58,851.05 for a net loss of \$47,838.18. General Fund experienced a net loss of \$47,268.52. Assets: General Fund Assets total \$231,591.93; Capital Fund assets total \$46,482.07; Liquid Fuels Fund Assets total \$37,808.71; and Fire Museum fund Assets of \$18,272; 300 Main Street Construction Fund Assets equal \$77,923.79 for a combined Assets total of \$412,078.50.

**2021 CDBG Program** – Woodland Avenue Stormwater Pipe Replacement and Road Overlay: Council ok with this road project. A resolution will be on the March Agenda for adoption by council.

**Business District Zoning Overlay Follow-up:** Our County Planner Aaron Holly is working with the Planning Commission on a proposed Zoning Overlay that would provide incentive for specific uses in the commercial districts. Borough Council is encouraged to review the Memo from the Planner and the revision he is working on and will be asked whether or not they want to move forward with it. Mrs. Klepfer reviewed where the concept originated and the process for creating the overlay zoning district.

**Committee Reports:**

**Property Committee** – 300 Main Street punch list deadline is February 24, 2021, Contractor is four months behind on the completion date.

**Historical and Revitalization Committees** – Hopefully next month we can have meetings.

**Park & Rec. Committee** – Still looking for volunteers. Committee Board has a vacancy.

**Other Business:** A large parcel in Lower Frederick Township was sold to a developer, a portion of the property is in Schwenksville. Schwenksville residents on Centennial Street are concerned about the storm water and traffic. It will be discussed at a special Regional Planning Commission Meeting on February 15, 2021.

**Adjournment:** Sarah Knickerbocker made the **motion, second Chris Melville** to adjourn the ZOOM meeting at 8:52pm. **Motion carried 4-0.**

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Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L Phillips  
Secretary/Treasurer