

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

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

Present, Darren Rash, Lee Ann Miller, Sarah Knickerbocker, Chris Melville, Brett Forcine 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. Public Comments during the Public forum should made by using the raise your hand feature on zoom and waiting until you are 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. After adoption of the official meeting minutes the video is deleted.

An Executive Session Meeting was held at Univest Bank on March 3, 2021 and an Executive Session Meeting was held via ZOOM March 11, 2021 at 6:00 PM about real-estate matters.

Mayor's Report: State Police Report for January 2021 – 43 incidents. Trooper Miree joined the meeting and introduced herself as the Community Service Trooper assigned to Schwenksville. She advised residents to report incidents in real time by calling 911 and to contact her with any problems that she can have patrol address. Several residents informed her of a problem with an unlicensed motor bike being driven in the vicinity of Clearfield Avenue and the young adults harassing residents, this happens between 4:30 and 5:30 PM. Trooper Mire will follow up and advise patrol of the problem.

Fire Company/Fire Marshal/EMC/Ambulance Reports: Chris Melville

Emergency Management and Fire Marshal – Limerick Drill will occur Tuesday November 16th and Chris asked to reserve the Meeting Room.

EMS Calls: Matthew Wells Plymouth Ambulance. 12 calls for Schwenksville 5 for Greenfield. 35 calls year to date.

Public Forum – Aileen Johnson from the Library, the Library opened on March 16 to the public for 28 hours a week and they are still doing curbside pickup. Kathy Retired after 18 years of service. New Executive Director is Karen DeAngelo. Aileen also thanked Darren for the new plastic shield for the Library front desk. Chris asked Aileen if she could use more PPE. Aileen said yes and thank you.

Brian Pippert also wanted to comment on the young adults that live on Clearfield Avenue harassing his family. This has also been reported to the State Police.

Engineer's Report: Dave Leh reported that there is a verbal approval for an additional louver at Game Farm and Main Street that we talked about last month. No change to the plan. Anne can call Armour & Sons to get that installed.

TA Set Aside – have the DM3 approval and now doing the constructability review.

Clearfield CDBG Project – Approval at last month's meeting to go out to bid. This is available Monday and should be able to award the project at the April Council Meeting.

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 with Anne and Dave 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.**

Solicitor's Report: Wendy Feiss-McKenna reported that their office looked at the 709 main Street Assessment Appeal filed. The result is that the Borough will need to reimburse Mr. Sigel for the Tax years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020 in the amount of \$1,081.08. This amount maybe lower if the payments were made in the discount period.

Action Items- Motion's, Resolutions, Authorizations:

Minutes: Dispense with the reading of the January 27, 2021 Meeting minutes, Joint SBA Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2021 Joint PC Meeting Minutes and February 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes and approve the minutes of the January 27, 2021 Meeting minutes, Joint SBA Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2021 Joint PC Meeting Minutes and February 11, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Chris Melville. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Treasurer's Report: Gail Phillips submitted the Treasurer report for the period ending February 28, 2021, the current invoices for payment total \$46,211.64. this includes \$28,573.31 from the General Fund, \$9,990.31 payroll and taxes, \$2,584.75 from Capital Fund and \$3,722.55 from Liquid Fuels and \$1,340.72 Construction fund. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Chris Melville to pay the invoices and payroll totaling \$46,211.64. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Resolution No. 2021-08 – A Resolution Authorizing Application for 2021 Community Development Block Grant for Woodland Avenue Stormwater Pipe Rehabilitation. **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to adopt Resolution No 2021-08. **Motion carried 4-0-1** as Chris Melville abstained as he owns property on Woodland Avenue.

Accept resignation of Jerry Giannini – **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to accept the resignation from Jerry Giannini as Auditor. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

2021 Landscaping Contract – Hackman Landscaping, LLC -Estimated \$11,000 Annual cost for all job sites. – **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah knickerbocker to accept Hackman Landscaping Estimate at \$11,000 for the 2021 contract. **Motion carried 4-0-1** with Chris Melville abstaining as Kris Hackman is a friend.

Requests for Proposals (RFP) – The request is for Code Enforcement Services. **Motion** Sarah Knickerbocker **second** Lee Ann Miller to authorize the Borough Manager to send the RFP's. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Finance Report- For the fiscal period January 1, 2021 through February 28, 2021 Total Income for General Fund and Liquid Fuels Fund was \$57,849.72 and total Expenditures was \$100,514.96 for a net loss of \$42,655.24. General Fund experienced a net loss of \$40,794.45 although the month of Feb. finished with a positive balance of \$6,474.01. Assets: General Fund Assets total \$237,537.35; Capital Fund assets total \$32,141.03; Liquid Fuels Fund Assets total \$36,507.58; and Fire Museum fund Assets of \$18,275.96; 300 Main Street Construction Fund Assets equal \$78,970.23 for a combined Assets total of \$403,432.15.

Plants for Planters Proposal – A proposal from Holistic Landscapes of Collegeville to obtain the plants and plant them for \$4,400. **Motion** Lee Ann Miller **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to accept the proposal from Holistic Landscapes of Collegeville not to exceed \$5,000. **Motion carried 4-0** with Chris Melville abstaining as he is friends with the owner.

Tax Collector's request to increase Tax Cert Fees – As Tax Collector, Mr. Laconis is asking Council to change the Tax Cert fee from \$15 per year to \$25 for 3 years of data versus \$15 for each year. Mr. Laconis would like this to go into effect January 1, 2022 for prior year certifications. **Motion** Chris Melville **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to authorize the Borough Manager to prepare A Resolution for the April meeting. All in favor. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Business Zoning Overlay Memo – Aaron Holly from Montgomery County Planning Commission was present to talk about the Zoning Overlay. This was talked about at the February Meeting and this is the third memo on the subject. The Planning Commission would like to move this along. If the rest of Council is in favor, we are asking to prepare in adoption format and it would get submitted to the Montgomery County Planning Commission for a formal review and then back to Schwenksville’s Planning Commission for a formal review and then back to Council for authorization to advertise after the Solicitors review.

Promote the Schwenksville Borough Main Street Business District.

Promote street-level activity, economic vitality, and multimodal transportation options for Main Street Businesses that align with the Perkiomen Trail.

Encourage creative commercial spaces and entrepreneurial business uses that leverage the Perkiomen Trail and Perkiomen Creek Water Trail

Encourage Redevelopment and new development in the Village Commercial and

Commercial Zoning Districts. Uses, Restaurant, Retail Shop, Tavern or

Bar Brewery/Brewpub, Artisanal Production/Retail Manufacturing, Indoor

Recreation, Movie Theater. A discussion was held and changes will be made. Authorize this memo with changes that were talked about this evening. **Motion** Chris Melville **second**

Sarah Knickerbocker with formalizing the Business Zoning Overlay District. **Motion carried 4-1.** Lee Ann Miller nay as she doesn’t see enough benefit in it at this point.

Committee Reports:

Property Committee – A meeting needs to be scheduled. Final inspection was done, however, there still are a few minor punch list items to finalize. Final change order and Final payment request will be on the April Agenda.

Historical and Revitalization Committees – No Report

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

Other Business: Jerry Giannini wanted to say that he is sorry it didn’t work out with the Auditors.

Adjournment: Chris Melville made the **motion, second** Sarah Knickerbocker to adjourn the ZOOM meeting at 8:02pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Next Meeting(s):

April 1, 2021 Planning Commission 7:00pm via ZOOM

April 8, 2021 Borough Council Meeting 7:00pm via ZOOM

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L Phillips
Secretary/Treasurer

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