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Greetings!

Dear Residents & Friends,

For nearly two years Schwenksville Borough Council has been involved in discussions with Lower Frederick Township regarding a partnership that would bring local police services to Schwenksville Borough. The discussions began in part because of increased legislative activity at the state level that seems to be leading towards new requirements that would have municipalities serviced by the State Police pay on a per capita basis for those services. The Borough also is interested in local police services to fill a need for quality of life policing that entails enforcement of Borough "Peace and Good Order" Ordinances, community policing and a stronger presence in the Borough to deter crime and slow down traffic. This initiative was spearheaded by Mayor Joe Giunta.

Last year Lower Frederick Township invited Schwenksville, Perkiomen Township, and Upper Frederick Township to participate in a feasibility study to examine the costs and feasibility of forming a Regional Police Department that would provide 24 hour, seven days a week police coverage to the four municipalities. The study, was funded by a grant from the Department of Community and Economic Development and up to this point there have been no out of pocket costs to the Borough other than legal notices for public meetings. In December this study/report was presented to the public in detail at a public meeting held at the Perkiomen Valley West Middle School conducted by the PA Dept. of Community and Economic Development. The Report is available on the Borough's website at <http://schwenksville-pa.org/services/police>. The report explains how a regional police agency would be formed and how each municipality would be represented and have the ability to vote on all police matters, including the selection of personnel. It outlines two options for a four member Regional Police Department and a three member Police Department that would provide 24-7 coverage from a

full service police department to its member municipalities. If all four municipalities joined together Schwenksville's share would be approximately \$183,442 per year and if three municipalities joined together the cost to Schwenksville Borough would increase to \$203,049.00. On a per capita basis, the cost amounts to approximately \$132 per person and \$147 per person respectively.

On the surface, this proposal seems quite reasonable, but Schwenksville Borough is different from its neighboring townships in many ways including size of tax base. Residents would not be billed based on how many people live in their household. Rather, a Real Estate Tax increase for the purpose of funding the Police Services would need to be adopted and due to the small size of our tax base, the increase would be significant. One mill is equal to \$1.00 of tax for every \$1,000 of assessment. In Schwenksville, one mill of real estate tax brings in approximately \$48,500 of revenue. Understanding, that it would take an tax increase of between 3.78 mill and 4.19 mill to fund the Regional Policing Options, Schwenksville asked Lower Frederick if they would be willing and able to tailor police services to meet our needs and a "to be determined" budget. And the answer was yes.

At a public meeting held on May 30, 2019 at the Schwenksville Borough Municipal Annex, Chief Paul Maxey addressed Borough Council and members of the public and reviewed the Regional Police Options as well as two options for purchasing local police services. **No proposal has been provided to Schwenksville Borough as of yet.** Rather, Chief Maxey explained that in Lower Frederick, the cost of a full time police officer's salary and benefits is approximately \$134,859.00. Therefore, if Schwenksville wanted 40 hours per week (approximately 6 hours per day) of police coverage that's how much it would cost. If we needed fewer hours per week, it would adjust downward using an hourly rate. He also illustrated that if we went to 80 hours per week of service, the cost of approximately 12 hours per day of coverage, would be greater than a Regional Police Option that would provide 24 hours of coverage. The purpose of this illustration was to suggest, that if we start small, but like the results, it would still be possible to form a regional police agency in the future.

To determine what your tax liability is you take the assessed value of your property and multiply it by the tax rate measured in mills and then divide that product by 1,000. For example, a home assessed at \$176,000 multiplied (x) by the current Schwenksville Borough Tax Rate of 6.4 mills divided by (/) 1000 = \$1,126.40 in local tax.

Schwenksville Borough Council will continue to meet with the neighboring townships to discuss local policing needs and different options for services. Borough Council is currently weighing the next step for engaging the public on this important subject. Public comments may be, and are highly encouraged to be, submitted to aklepfer@schwenksville-pa.org or gail@schwenksville-pa.org or to Borough Council C/O 140 Main Street, Schwenksville PA 19473.

Sincerely,

Schwenksville Borough Council

Music in the Meadow 2019



At Meadow Park, located at 300 Main Street, summer concerts will be held June 19th from 6:30-8:30; July 17th from 6:30-8:30 and August 21st from 6PM to 8PM. Come one, come all to enjoy music of Rhodes Less Traveled, Four Lanes End and our very own Dog Bite Money. For more information check out the kiosk at Meadow Park or check www.schwenksville-pa.org.

Main Street Plaza News

We were just notified by Montgomery County that our application for funding through the Montco2040 Grant Program that aids in implementing the goals of the County's comprehensive Plan Montco2040: A Shared Vision, was approved in the amount of \$66,180 for ornamental lighting and greenscaping at the Main Street Plaza. We are thrilled that Montgomery County shares our vision for Schwenksville's Main Street. This work will not occur until 2020.

Main Street Construction Activities

Water & Sewer Authority Work: We understand that last summer's Water & Sewer Line replacement project was painfully slow and disruptive. The Authority will be working to finish the work that was left incomplete due to weather conditions. The work is being completed by a different contractor and is much more limited in scope. However, the work zone is near and at the intersection of Game Farm Road, E. Park Avenue and Main Street and will cause disruption of the Traffic Signal and traffic. Your patience is appreciated. Please call 610-287-7772 with questions or concerns. The project is nearing completion.

Borough Work: The 100 block of Main Street is undergoing sidewalk and curb replacement. This construction was funded by a Community Development Block Grant which is federal funding administered by Montgomery County for low and moderate income communities. This project may require lane reductions and restrictions at Maple Avenue where a new handicap ramp will be installed.

Perkiomen Trail Observation Deck: The Borough will begin constructing trail said rain gardens and an observation deck and staircase into Meadow Park within the next few weeks. This is an exciting project and is the first of its kind along the Perkiomen Trail. The construction of this project was funded by a Montgomery County A Shared Vision:2040 Implementation Grant; a planting grant from the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy and volunteers organized by the Perkiomen Watershed Conservancy. Construction is scheduled to begin next week.

Road Repairs: Patching will occur on Mine Hill Road near Hill Crest, Centennial Street, Woodland Ave and Second Street south of Perkiomen. This work needs to be fit into the contractor's schedule. Your patience is

appreciated. A grant for 2020 work on Pleasantview and Hillcrest is anticipated to be announced shortly.

300 Main Street Renovations: Bids were opened May 23rd. Unfortunatley the bids came in higher than we hoped and this work will most likely be re-bid with a reduced scope in the fall. Hopefully, a bid will come in on budget and renovations to convert the former Schwenksville Fire House into a new Borough Hall & a Community Room will begin in the near future.

PennDot Work: Penndot has awarded a contract to Highway Materials, Inc. of Flourtown for the mill and overlay repair of Main Street from the Route 73 Bridge through the limits of the Borough and beyond. **This work is now anticipated to begin in July.**

Crossing Guard Needed for 2019-2020 School Year @ Schwenksville Elementary

Applications for Crossing Guard will be received through August 1, 2019. A crossing guard is wanted for Schwenksville Elementary School.

The hours of work are school days 8:15 am to 8:45 am. 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm (school days only); hours vary during as per school calendar or in bad weather.

For more information please contact Anne Klepfer at 610-287-7442 or email

aklepfer@schwenksville-pa.org.

New Family Roots Exhibit at Pennypacker mills

Pennypacker Mills presents a new exhibit on Family Roots. The new exhibit focus on PA Governor Samuel Pennypacker's paternal family history and explores the arrival of the first ancestor in America in 1698 through to Samuel's generation. The exhibit is included on all free guided tours of the Pennypacker mansion. Hours: Tues- Sat: 10am to 4 pm; Sunday: 1pm to 4pm. Closed Mondays and County Holidays.

[Family Roots Exhibit Poster](#)

Electronic Message Board & Kiosk



Schwenksville Borough would like you to know that the advertising can be purchased for reasonable rates to have your message on the electronic sign at 300 Main Street. Just complete the [application](#) and submit it to Gail@schwenksville-pa. If we have room on the sign we will contact you about payment and schedule your message.



In addition, the Borough is accepting submissions of Flyers that advertise public events of public benefit or interest for inclusion on the bulletin boards inside the

new information kiosk adjacent to the Perkiomen Trail at Meadow Park. There is no fee for this.

The Borough reserves the right to approve the content of what is posted for either the electronic sign or Kiosk.

Sign up for Alerts!

Be alert... Be Informed... Be ReadyMontco!

ReadyMontco is your official source for notifications about emergencies, severe weather, crime alerts and disasters in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania.

ReadyMontco is administered by the Montgomery County Department of Public Safety and comes to you free of charge (text messaging and voice rates may apply). All it takes is ten minutes to create a profile and you'll be READY to go! You will receive time-sensitive messages wherever you specify, such as your home, mobile or business phones, email address, text messages and more. You pick where, you pick how.



STAY INFORMED, STAY SAFE PENNSYLVANIA!

Join the AlertPA notification system by signing up for CodeRED for emergency and weather related alerts, health notifications, building alerts and other updates from PA Commonwealth and federal agencies. A CodeRED Weather Warning will automatically alert you if your address falls in the path of severe weather, as determined by the National Weather Service. *This service is provided to you at no cost by your organization.

[*1 message per alerting event. Message and data rates may apply.]

511PA

511PA can send email to travelers who sign up for Personal Travel Alerts, and lets you tailor your notifications for all roadways on the 511PA core network. It is easy to sign up to tailor your alerts to only those roadways in which you're interested. Don't want alerts on weekends? No problem. You can specify that you only want email alerts on weekdays. Only want email alerts before you start your daily commute? Just say what time of day you'd like them to start (and end!).

DOG Licenses

Did you know that failure to license your dog can result in a fine of \$300 per day per dog?

Montgomery County requires dog owners to purchase a dog license. for more information please refer to the following attachments:

[Dog License Flyer](#)

[Dog License Agents](#)

[Dog Licensing Campaign](#)

Should you have questions or concerns about information contained in this e-newsletter; about projects being undertaken by Schwenksville Borough or about Borough operations please contact us at info@schwenksville-pa.org or call 610-287-7442. Residents are also welcomed to attend a Council Meeting on the 2nd Thursday of each Month at 7 PM --except for January of even years when the Borough conducts a reorganization meeting the first Monday or day after a holiday in January. The next Council Meeting is Thursday, February 8th.

Hours of Operation

M- Thursday 9 AM - 5PM
Friday 9AM - 2PM
140 Main Street
Schwenksville, PA 19473
Phone (610) 287-7442
Fax (610)287-8098



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