

BOROUGH OF SCHWENKSVILLE PA  
COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 9, 2010

Council President Arthur Fairclough at 7:30 PM called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on December 9, 2010 to order.

Present, Arthur Fairclough, Rudy Micsko, Maureen Giacomucci, Lee Ann Miller, and Mayor Joe Giunta.

Also, present Blake Dunbar Jr. Esq., Mike Galla Borough Manager, Gail Phillips Council Secretary.

Absent Ray Yeanish

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** By the Assembly

**MINUTES:** Dispense with the reading of the November 11, 2010 minutes and approve the November 11, 2010 minutes. Motioned by Rudy Micsko and seconded by Lee Ann Miller. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**AUDIENCE:** Bill McGovern from Lower Frederick Regional Ambulance Corp. handed to Council a report of the finances for the past four years. He is asking for an increase to the Ambulance Corp. for \$15,000 from each municipality for 2011.

**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND TREASURERS REPORT:**

Gail Phillips reported that for the period ending November 30, 2010, the current invoices due for payment total \$47,857.52. This includes \$20,149.87 from the General Fund, \$4,194.75 from the Liquid Fuels Account, \$11,514.00 from the Trash fund and \$11,998.90 from payroll. Motioned by Rudy Micsko and seconded by Lee Ann Miller to pay the bills totaling \$47,857.52. All were in favor and the motion carried.

**FINANCE REPORT:** Rudy reviewed the November 2010 financial report with Council. Totals for the end of November – Assets \$791,481.09, Liabilities \$76,448.08, Equity \$715,033.01. Total Income \$467,864.20, Expenses \$422,213.64, Net income \$45,650.56.

**2011 Tax Ordinance: Ordinance #363 – Tax Rates for the Year 2011**

Public meeting opened at 7:53pm

Rudy Micsko presented Ordinance #363 to include a tax increase of .25 mils. This would make the general tax increase 3.94 mils, Fire tax .36 mils and Library tax .10 mils equals 4.40 for 2011.

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With there being no comment, the public meeting closed at 8:02pm.

**MOTIONED BY RUDY MICKSKO AND SECONDED BY LEE ANN MILLER TO ADOPT ORDINANCE #363 LEVYING THE TAX RATES FOR THE YEAR 2011. ALL WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.**

Adoption of the 2011 Budget, which was advertised and available for public inspection.

**MOTIONED BY RUDY MICKSKO AND SECONDED BY LEE ANN MILLER TO ADOPT THE 2011 BUDGET AS PUBLISHED. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

**ENGINEERS REPORT** – Mike Galla reported for the Engineer that replacement of the piping and inlet on Maple Street is in progress.

**SOLICITORS REPORT:** Blake Dunbar Jr. reported that the new trash contract with Ches-Mont has been signed by all parties and will take effect January 1, 2011.

Blake will look into Act 205 pertaining to the Police Pension Plan.

**FIRE COMPANY REPORT:** Chief Jim Keyser read his report as follows, for the Month of November 2010, 8 calls, 73 men in service for a total of 7:54 minutes in service.

Fire Companies Santa Run will be December 19.

Schwenksville Fire Company wishes to thank the Borough Council for their continuous support.

**AMBULANCE REPORT:** Jean Houpt read the report as follows, for the month of November 2010 10 calls for Schwenksville including 9 for the Colonnade. Entertainment Books for sale. 2011 Membership drive began in November.

**MAYORS REPORT:** Mayor Joe Giunta reported that the State Police calls for the month of November were 22. Mr. Giunta attended the Lower Fredrick Township Supervisors meeting Tuesday December 7. Mr. Giunta read the letter concerning the speeding and the failure of motorists not stopping at the stop signs on Game Farm Road at Mine Hill Road. Suggestions were to reduce the speed to 25MPH, add stop signs at Game Farm and Smith Road and install electronic MPH notification sign.

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**BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:** Mike Galla reported that he has received three quotes to resurface Boulevard Avenue with stone.

Schwenksville Borough Authority - \$6,500 (do not have the machinery to compact and roll the stone)

Robert Slater, Inc. \$10,885

Gary J. Schneider Landscaping - \$8,775

Mike Galla recommends Gary J. Schneider Landscaping, which will roll and compact the stone allowing for a longer surface life.

**MOTIONED BY LEE ANN MILLER AND SECONDED BY MAUREEN GIACOMUCCI TO APPROVE GARY J. SCHNEIDER LANDSCAPING TO RESURFACE BOULEVARD AVENUE FOR \$8,775. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.**

#### **Engineer RFP**

Mr. Galla is summarizing the RFP's received from each firm. He has completed summarizing about half of them and expects to finish the rest in the next day or two.

Mike recommends that a committee be established to narrow down and interview perspective firms. Council established Mike, Arthur, and Ray as the members of the committee. Mike will ask Ray to be on the committee. Rudy also volunteered if Ray is unavailable.

#### **Signs – Internal Illumination**

The Planning Commission has been reviewing the sign ordinance and will be recommending changes in the near future. One of the topics heavily discussed is internal illumination. A majority opinion of the Planning Commission members is that the current requirement of external illumination should remain and internal illumination should be prohibited. Currently the Borough does have existing internally illuminated signs (Tailwinds, Moccias, Ortinos, and Univest) that were permitted in the past.

Lee Ann Miller started the discussion that the Ordinance needs to be clear and enforced. New Internal Illumination is prohibited per the ordinance with some signs being "Grandfathered".

Correct inaccuracies in the code, chart does not agree with 176-111, which prohibits all internal illumination, allow same size of sign in VC 1 and VC2 Districts.

Use the County Planner for help with multiple signs permitted to view by vehicle and pedestrian. Include clear options for business promotion, while still limiting clutter. Also window signage, sandwich boards.

Lee Ann suggested to Council that looking at the signs in the surrounding municipalities would help get a feel for what we should be looking for to keep the small town character and to compliment the historic architecture.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: No Report

REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE: No Report

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE: PROPERTY: Maureen and Lee Ann visited Mrs. Maxwell's 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at Schwenksville Elementary School to talk with them about Community. Lee Ann has displayed some of the posters and dioramas' that the class has made.

Maureen reported that the Red Hill Band is available for the June 12, 2011 Flag Retirement Ceremony.

Date for Community Day will be Saturday April 30, 2011.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: Christmas lights are up thanks to Mr. Gammon and the Schwenksville Fire Police and Fire Company. We need to order 4 brackets with straps at a cost of \$140.00 plus shipping.

The Albright Houses were moved to the basement of Borough Hall with the help from Mr. Albright, Lee Ann, Rudy, Darrin and Gail. Minor repairs in the basement will be made for heat and electric.

Replacement of the chairs for the office, Lee Ann has been pricing and will order one so Council can decide if that is what they would like.

STREETS AND ROADS: No Report

STREET LIGHTING: No Report

ALLEY WAY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: No Report

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: No Report

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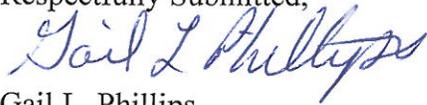
**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

Next meeting will be January 13 @ 7:30 PM

It was motioned by Rudy Micsko and seconded by Maureen Giacomucci to adjourn the meeting at 9:30PM. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gail L. Phillips  
Council Secretary