

BOROUGH OF SCHWENKSVILLE, PA  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 10, 2016

Council President Darren Rash called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on March 10, 2016 to order at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall, 140 Main Street, Schwenksville, PA 19473.

Present, Darren Rash, Lee Ann Miller, Todd Larsen, Phil Berardi, and Mayor Joe Giunta

Also, present, Blake Dunbar Jr., Esquire, David Leh, P.E., Anne Klepfer, Borough Manager, and Secretary-Treasurer Gail Phillips.

Absent Greg Pocius

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** by the assembly

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

Marcy Toepel, State Representative for the 147th District. Rep. Toepel has an office at 1885 Swamp Pike, suite 107 Gilbertsville, PA 19525-9666. Phone 610-323-3299. Rep. Toepel told Council that she has started Satellite Office hours on the first and third Thursdays at the Lower Salford Township Municipal Building, 379 Main St. Harleysville. Rep. Toepel has written support letters for grants for Schwenksville Borough. Mayor Giunta asked about the 73 bridge. Bill Bushnell answered that the Graterford Bridge is scheduled for April 26 completion. The 73 bridge may be started in July. The Mayor's request is to have a meeting before the work starts on the 73 Bridge. Rep. Toepel has spoken to Crystal Gilgrist who also said for five months PennDot will have Sunneytown Pike closed for road construction work.

**Mayor's Report**, Mayor Giunta reported from the State Police statistic of 18 incidents in the Borough. He would like to meet with the Police task Force to set up the public meeting date and determine what information will be needed to make the meeting meaningful.

**Fire Company Report** – Jim Keyser reported 7 calls for the month of February 2016, 31 Firefighters Responded, 6:11 Time in service. Two calls in Schwenksville, 2 calls in Lower Frederick, 1 call Perkiomen 1 call in Trappe and One call Limerick. Fire Company is always looking for volunteers.

In addition to Chief Keyser's monthly statistics report, the Fire Company is requesting permission to hold the annual Easter Flower Sale On March 24, 25, 26, 2016. The annual Easter breakfast will be on March 27 doors open at 8am. The Fire Company is also selling Easter pies. Mrs. Klepfer said in the past the Fire Co. has applied for and received a permit for an accessory use.

**Ambulance Report**, Gail Phillips read the report for February 2016 stating Plymouth Community Ambulance had 18 calls for the Borough. PCAA Memberships are available anytime; please call 610-277-2776.

**Aileen Johnson** from the Schwenksville Library introduced herself to Council and talked about the programs for teens and children. Mrs. Johnson left flyers about the bookmobile and summer activities. Ms. Johnson also introduced the new Library Board member Meredith Glodek, President of the Library Advisory Board. Mrs. Johnson also thanked Council for their generous support of the

Library. Spring Book Sale Saturday March 19<sup>th</sup> 9am-1pm. For more information visit <http://www.pvlibrary.net>

**Presentation on Regional Street Light Procurement:** Mike Bayesa from Johnson Controls presented the preliminary audit report. Mr. Bayesa gave Council the printout of the PowerPoint presentation and explained the energy efficiency upgrade considered under the Regional Street Light Procurement Program (RSLPP) through a guaranteed energy saving contract (GESA) with Johnson Controls in connection with each municipality's participation in the Pennsylvania Sustainable Energy Finance (PENNSEF) Program.

**Audience Comments** – Linda Wilde of 63 Main Street has once again asked about someone cleaning out the storm drains on the west side of Main Street between Perkiomen Avenue and Route 73. Mrs. Klepfer replied that PennDot has looked at the drains and that one of them has no pipes so under certain circumstances, the water doesn't dissipate quickly. Mrs. Klepfer will contact PennDot and mention it to them again; however until the State or the Borough is prepared to connect it to another drain, she's not sure there is much that can be done. In response to Ms. Wilde's earlier complaint about the grate being damaged, the Borough is having it replaced in conjunction with the S. Main Street improvements.

**Engineer Report** - Dave Leh – South Main Street Improvement Project, 7 bids opened on January 20. Ply-mar Construction was the low bid at \$193,215. Mr. Leh is recommending that Council award the bid to Ply-mar Construction. **Motioned** by Phil Berardi and **seconded** by Todd Larsen to award the bid to Ply-mar Construction. **Vote 3-0 with Ms. Miller abstaining;** Ms. Miller owns property on Main Street and is abstaining on voting on the South Main Street Project, to avoid the appearance of any conflict of interest. **Motion carried.**

**Green Alley Project (Miller/Boyer/Cedar)** bid opening is April 7, 2016 at 2:00pm.

**Walnut Street Project** is ready to go out for bids.

**Solicitor's Report** – Written Report submitted to Council  
PEBL, 709 Main Street Zoning Application, Eric Seigel withdrew the application and is requesting a refund of money not used. The borough will refund Mr. Seigel \$628.78.

**250 Main Street/Lumberyard Easements & Agreements** – Nothing new to report.

**Action Items – Motions, Resolutions, Ordinances:**

**Minutes:** Dispense with the reading of the February 11, 2016 **Regular** Meeting Minutes and approve the February 11, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented, **Motioned** by Phil Berardi and **seconded** by Todd Larsen. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Treasurer Report:**

Treasurer report submitted and payment of the Borough March 2016 bills, totaling \$47,877.76 and the \$628.78 refund for Mr. Seigel. **Motion** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Phil Berardi to approve the treasurer report and to pay the bills totaling \$38,650.65 and the refund \$628.78. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Ordinance for Deferred Compensation Plan for Borough Employees** – Motioned by Phil Berardi **second** by Todd Larsen to adopt Ordinance 384 Deferred Compensation Plan for Borough Employees. **All in favor, Motion carried 4-0.**

**Ordinance No. 385 Floodplain Conservation District Regulations** – Ratify authorization to advertise- **Motion** by Todd Larsen **second** Phil Berardi to authorize to advertise Ordinance #385 and to hold a Special Council meeting Tuesday March 15, 2016 to adopt the Ordinance. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Resolution No. 2016-06** – Authorizing participation in the Regional Streetlight Procurement Program (RSLPP) and agreeing to the terms and conditions – **Motion** by Todd Larsen **second** Phil Berardi to adopt Resolution 2016-06 to authorize participation in the RSLPP. **Motion carried 4-0.**

### **MANAGERS REPORT:**

**Financial Report:** Mrs. Klepfer's financial report: For the period January 1, 2016 through February 29, 2016, Total Income for General Fund and Liquid Fuels Funds was \$45,324.79 and Total Expenditures was \$56,493.24 for a net loss of \$11,168.45.

General Fund experienced a net loss of \$9,581.39

Assets: General Fund Assets Total \$252,786.99

Capital Fund Assets total \$37,691.14 and Liquid Fuels Fund Assets total \$22,801.48 for a Combined Assets total of \$313,279.61.

Monthly report submitted to Council for review.

There are two Spring Grant opportunities. One is the Montco 20/40 Implementation Grant Program, this is a rolling grant program starting April 2, and every two months they will make awards until the money is gone. The required match is 20% of Grant amount.

Schuylkill Highlands Grant that we applied for last year, they like smaller independent projects with no overlaps. Mrs. Klepfer will need a Resolution as this grant is due April 29. This grant cannot commingle with DCNR Grants/project scopes. The required match is 50%.

The 2016 CDBG Grant is due April 15. The Five Year Capital Plan calls for Summit Avenue North work to be completed in 2017 or Centennial Street in 2018. The Borough Hall accessibility grant would include accessible bathroom, & Entry Ramps, small addition. Eligible Funding, CDBG & State, or Federal Low interest Loan or USDA financing. Council would prefer to choose a project that will keep the momentum going on Main Street, fix a road or solve a walkability problem.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Historical Committee Report To Council** - Ms. Miller would like to honor Chris Kraft a member of the committee and longtime resident of Schwenksville to recognize his many years of service. In addition, the members of the committee will be going to Central Perkiomen Park to retrieve many

historical objects left when the Central Perkiomen Historical Society disbanded. Council had no objection to retrieving the objects from the Central Perkiomen Park.

**Revitalization Task Force—Monthly Report -5—Park Avenue Flooding/North Trail Access and Trailhead**

--Park Avenue Flooding is a long-standing issue that was last proposed to be solved, by raising the roadway, and realigning the Game Farm/Park Ave. intersection, across what is now the Laundromat property. Many years ago, PennDOT had this in their 10-year plan, but walked away when there was opposition from the Central Perk Historical Society, via a letter from Chris Kraft. Should solving this problem be a priority for the community, or should we just continue to live with it? What other ways would there be to solve/help it besides tearing down the building? How does that relate to the parking and access aspects of the two projects below? The Revitalization Task Force considered this a priority to go into our Main Street Plan, but was divided on the issue of whether the building should be torn down. It was discussed with a previous Council as something Council would have to determine when and how to approach.

North Trail Access, Lower Frederick Township and the County, Joe Laird at Tailwind, and many community members have long requested that the old railroad bed be opened as a trail from Ortinos to Delphi. Walkers/Bikers here literally have no safe passage on Rt. 29 in this area, and not everyone wants to take the long, strenuous route on the Perkiomen Trail over the back of Spring Mountain. In speaking to Rich Wood, he stated that opening the Trail itself is not an issue. The issue in Schwenksville is access from the existing Perkiomen Trail around Ortinos, requiring a good sidewalk connection, as the terrain behind Ortinos is inaccessible. Anne has received inquiries from Lower Frederick Township, who the County would be interested in collaborating with us.

North Trailhead - A second Trailhead has been part of the Revitalization Plan since the first one at the south end was done. In addition to “welcoming” people to the Borough, this one was to include an access path to Main Street. Rich Wood would also like to see some Trail Parking in the area. Just one problem—most of that area currently floods out. This project fits naturally with the above two.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**Motioned** by Phil Berardi and **seconded** by Todd Larsen to adjourn the meeting at 9:28pm.

**Motion carried 4-0.**

**NEXT MEETING(S):**

March 15, 2016 at 7:30pm – Special Council Meeting

April 7, 2016 Next Planning Commission Meeting

April 14, 2016 Borough Next Council Regular Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L. Phillips  
Secretary