

Council President Darren Rash called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on February 11, 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 Greg Pocius.

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

Absent Mayor Joe Giunta

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Schwenksville Investment Properties – This project is currently an approved Land Development but has taken a long time to complete the needed steps to bring the project to fruition. The owner, Mr. Manning, is making an informational presentation to Council tonight because none of the current Council members (except for Ms. Miller who is also a partner in the project) was on Council at the time the project approval.

Mr. Manning spoke to Council about three buildings he will be building at 250 Main Street. Two of the buildings are 3,000 sq. feet, one is 4,800 sq. feet. A plan showing the layout of the project and a conceptual sketch of what two of the buildings will look like was displayed. The biggest challenge has been storm water; they are on their third NPDS permit, which will not expire for five years. Mr. Manning showed where the water and sewer lines are on the plan. The County has agreed to the relocating of the Perkiomen Trail to accommodate the road that Mr. Manning needs for his project. The Authority will be moving their sheds to help with the space required for the road. Mr. Pocius asked Mr. Manning how far into the future until he can do the foundation/pad work. Mr. Manning responded about a year. Mr. Larsen asked, “Will you build and occupy one building before you build the second and third building?” Mr. Manning replied that the initial interest was to build the restaurant first and then move on from that. Ms. Miller, speaking as one of the owners of the property responded that it depends on the interest they get but noted that you cannot have the whole sight torn up so you need to maintain progress. Mr. Rash thanked Mr. Manning for the information on the project.

Mayor’s Report, Mayor Giunta - Absent, No Report

Fire Company Report – Jim Keyser reported Four calls for the month of January 2016, 26 Firefighters Responded, 3:04 Time in service. Two calls in Schwenksville, One call in Lower Frederick, One call Perkiomen. Five men for 5 hours assist PA State Police with a DUI checkpoint. The Fire Company will submit a report when the audit is completed. Fire Company is always looking for volunteers.

In addition to Chief Keyser’s monthly statistics report, he gave a brief report on items that need purchasing within the next two years. 22 portable radios \$101,740.32, 4 mobile radios \$23,753.76, 12 SCBA (breathing apparatus) \$69,600, 20 sets of Gear \$62,060, total cost \$257,154.08. Chief Keyser will be applying for grants to purchase the needed equipment.

Ambulance Report, Gail Phillips read the report for January 2016 stating Plymouth Community Ambulance had 16 calls for Greenfield Senior Living and 5 calls for the Borough. PCAA Memberships are available anytime; please call 610-277-2776.

Audience Comments - None

Engineer Report – South Main Street Improvement Project, 7 bids were opened on January 20. Ply-mar Construction was the low bid at \$193,215. Mr. Leh is recommending that Council announce our intent to award the bid to Ply-mar Construction at the March 10, 2016 meeting. **Motioned** by Greg Pocius and **seconded** by Todd Larsen to authorize Darren Rash to sign the letter of intent to award the bid to Ply-mar Construction. **Vote 4-0 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) - Dave Leh reported that the design and bid documents are ready and Council can authorize the advertisement for the project. **Motioned** by Todd Larsen and **seconded** by Phil Berardi to authorize the advertisement for the bids for this project. **All in favor, Motion carried 5-0.**

Walnut Street – the Design work has begun, ready to go out to bid. Borough is waiting for final approval from the County.

Solicitor's Report – Written Report submitted to Council
709 Main Street Zoning hearing Board Application for a variance – the Zoning Hearing Board will meet on February 22, 2016 at 7:00pm. Schwenksville Planning Commission opposes the change for the following reasons, Properly Zoned because it is Commercial; the property has sufficient parking for the mixed use. Planning Committee thought that the Borough had been very flexible with previous amendments and rezoning to accommodate them. Mrs. Klepfer emailed the Solicitor for the Planning Commission. Council also opposes the change and it was **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Phil Berardi to send a letter to the Zoning Hearing Board to recommend they deny the variance application and indicate Council's opposition to the application. **All in favor, Motion carried 5-0.**

250 Main Street/Lumberyard Easements & Agreements - Schwenksville Investment Properties, LLC have the access and egress easement, a temporary construction easement and a public easement agreement. All three are satisfactory and in acceptable form once exhibits are attached according to Mr. Dunbar, Esquire.

Action Items – Motions, Resolutions, Ordinances:

Minutes: Dispense with the reading of the January 4, 2016 **Reorganization** Meeting Minutes and approve the January 4, 2016 Reorganization Meeting Minutes as presented, **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Phil Berardi. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Minutes: Dispense with the reading of the January 4, 2016 **Regular** Meeting Minutes and approve the January 4, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented, **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Phil Berardi. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Treasurer Report:

Treasurer report submitted and payment of the Borough February 2016 bills, totaling \$38,650.65. **Motion** by Greg Pocius and **seconded** by Phil Berardi to approve the treasurer report and to pay the bills totaling \$38,650.65. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Schwenksville Authority has informed the Borough that Charles Beitler is retiring on February 26, 2016.

Ordinance for Deferred Compensation Plan for Borough Employees – Motioned by Greg Pocius **second** by Phil Berardi to authorize to advertise Ordinance 383 Deferred Compensation Plan for Borough Employees. **All in favor, Motion carried 5-0.**

Resolution No. 2016-5 to approve Worcester Township as a Member of the Regional UCC Board of Appeals - Motioned by Greg Pocius **seconded** by Phil Berardi to approve Resolution No. 2016-05, approving Worcester Township as a Member of the Regional UCC Board of Appeals. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Electronic Recycling Day at Palmer Park (Creamery Road) Skippack 9:00am to 1:00pm May 7, 2016. Schwenksville's cost is \$357.15. **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller **seconded** by Todd Larsen to participate and approve the cost of \$357.15. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Ratify the Mayor's Declaration of Emergency January 22 to January 23 and extending it through January 28, 2016 for the 2016 Blizzard. **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Phil Berardi to ratify the Mayor's Declaration of Emergency. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

MANAGERS REPORT:

Mrs. Klepfer submitted her written reports prior to the meeting.

Date for Public meeting: Mayor Giunta was absent from tonight's meeting. Mr. Rash recommends that the Police Task Force meet and report at the March Council Meeting with a date in May for the public meeting about the Police coverage for the Borough. A 2.5 mil increase to cover the cost of the Police coverage is estimated as needed to pay for the service.

Meadow Park Phase II Improvements – The DCNR approved the Grant for \$250,000.00. Improvements include boat launch (kayaks and canoes), lower parking lot for the boat ramp. They did not approve the equipment for the multipurpose so they deducted the \$8,000 worth of basketball equipment. This is a 50/50 grant, which means the Borough needs to come up with \$250,000. The most the Borough can get from the other grant that is pending is \$200,000. Mrs. Klepfer mailed a letter of intent to the Schuylkill Rivers Restoration Fund to apply for the Storm

Water Grant for \$35,000. That would leave \$22,000 of engineering fees. The engineering is spread out over 2 to 3 fiscal years. The Borough also has \$28,000 from a County contribution.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Historical Committee – Ms. Miller reported that Darren Clossin will be helping with the Historical Committee and would be going with Ms. Miller next week to Park House at Central Perkiomen Valley Park, to catalog and box up items to move that belonged to the former Central Perkiomen Historical Society.

Revitalization Task Force: Ms. Miller is making a push to get the Main Street draft plan finished.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Borough has been exploring a financing opportunity for LED relamping of existing streetlights through the Regional Street Lighting Procurement Program. However, Ms. Miller noted that during that process we were given the opportunity to explore a possibility for adding decorative streetlights for Main Street. Some of those lights planned to run along the 250 Main St. (former Lumber Yard) property of which Ms. Miller is a partner, which makes it a conflict of interest for her. Therefore, she will be recusing herself from both commenting and voting on the final decision concerning whether the Borough should participate in the project, and whether that participation will include decorative streetlights. It is anticipated that that decision will need to be made at the March Council Meeting.

Motioned by Todd Larsen and **seconded** by Greg Pocius to adjourn the meeting at 9:17pm.
Motion carried 5-0.

NEXT MEETING(S):

March 3, 2016 Next Planning Commission Meeting
March 10, 2016 Borough Next Council Regular Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L. Phillips
Secretary