

BOROUGH OF SCHWENKSVILLE, PA
COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 10, 2011

Council President Arthur Fairclough at 7:30 PM called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on March 10, 2011 to order.

Present, Arthur Fairclough, Maureen Giacomucci, Lee Ann Miller, Ray Yeanish and Mayor Joe Giunta.

Also, present Robert Brant Esq., Dave Leh, Gilmore Associates, Mike Galla Borough Manager, Gail Phillips Council Secretary.

Absent Rudy Micsko

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: By the Assembly

MINUTES: Dispense with the reading of the February 10, 2011 minutes and approve the February 10, 2011 minutes. Motioned by Ray Yeanish and seconded by Maureen Giacomucci. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDIENCE: Aileen Johnson from the Perkiomen Valley Library at Schwenksville thanked Council for the 2010 tax revenue. Aileen also mentioned eBooks is now available for download.

Robert Duda of 816 Summit Avenue collected 13 petition signatures from his neighbors concerning the nine dogs that live next door to him. Mr. Duda reports that the dogs bark at all hours of the day and night and that the odor and feces are out of control. Mayor Giunta did some research about using a noise meter but the current ordinance does not mention decibel levels.

Robert Brant solicitor for the Borough says writing a new ordinance takes time. Mr. Brant stated that the tenant at 816 Summit Avenue is violating the use regulations within the R-1 Zoning District. Mr. Brant asked Council to approve a blanket motion to take any and all action against 816 Summit Avenue.

MOTIONED BY RAY YEANISH AND SECONDED BY LEE ANN MILLER TO AUTHORIZE ROBERT BRANT TO TAKE ANY AND ALL ACTION IN REGARDS TO 816 SUMMIT AVENUE. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND TREASURERS REPORT:

Gail Phillips reported that for the period ending February 28, 2011, the current invoices due for payment total \$38,676.57. This includes \$27,435.14 from the General Fund, \$3,138.50 from the Liquid Fuels Account, and \$8,102.93 from payroll. Motioned by Ray Yeanish and seconded by Maureen Giacomucci to pay the bills totaling \$38,676.57. All were in favor and the motion carried.

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FINANCE REPORT: Council President Arthur Fairclough reviewed the February 2011 financial report with Council. Totals for the end of February – Assets \$642,889.91, Liabilities \$182,725.84, Equity \$642,889.91. Total Income \$38,928.72, Expenses \$81,580.32, Net Loss (\$42,651.60).

Census Data shows Schwenksville is one of the top five that has lost population in the last ten years. In 2000, the population was 1,693 and the 2010 figures show an 18% drop to approximately 1,300.

ENGINEERS REPORT – David had no formal report. A meeting with Mike was held about some of the projects that the Borough is working on.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Robert Brant met with David Leh to review the outstanding issues in connection with the “Lumber Yard” Land Development Plan. A Preliminary/Final Plan for the project was submitted and a Resolution has been drawn up for approval. Mr. Brant reviewed the Resolution and the conditions of approval with Council.

Mr. Manning was present from Schwenksville Investment Properties, LLC and had no questions. Councilwoman Miller being a partner has recused herself from discussion and vote on this project.

MOTIONED BY MAUREEN GIACOMUCCI AND SECONDED BY RAY YEANISH TO ADOPT PRELIMINARY/FINAL PLAN APPROVAL FOR SCHWENKSVILLE INVESTMENT PROPERTIES, LLC BY RESOLUTION 2011-06. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

FIRE COMPANY REPORT: Chief Jim Keyser read his report as follows, for the Month of February 2011, 7calls, 54 men in service for a total of 1:34 minutes in service.

AMBULANCE REPORT: Jean Houpt reported for the month of February 2011 that they had 3calls for Schwenksville and 4 calls for the Colonnade.

Jean also wanted to thank the Borough for letting them display the structures made by Robert Albright. The first structure is of the Univest Bank. A new structure will be on display every month.

Jean also mentioned the 2011 membership drive.

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MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Joe Giunta reported that the State Police calls for the month of February 2011 were 26. Highlighted incidents – assault/harassment 2, burglary 1, collision

1, disorderly conduct 2, Megan’s Law 1, disturbance 1, theft/forgery 1, and DUI alcohol 1. Not included in this report was a recent incident involving an attempted abduction of a young boy.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT – Mike Galla reported the following,

Spring Mountain House Documents

Montgomery County has released the remaining money to fund the acquisition of the Spring Mountain House. Approvals of two additional documents are needed to finalize the transaction. These two documents are the Deed and Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions for the property. Council would need a motion and a vote to approve these documents

MOTIONED BY LEE ANN MILLER AND SECONDED BY RAY YEANISH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2011-03 SIGNING OF THE DEED DOCUMENT AND THE DECLARATION OF COVENANTS DOCUMENT FOR THE SPRING MOUNTAIN HOUSE. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

CDBG Grant Application and Resolution

Council needs to approve the submission of the CDBG grant for the parking lot behind the Fire House and construction of the walking path within Meadow Park.

MOTIONED BY LEE ANN MILLER AND SECONDED BY MAUREEN GIACOMUCCI TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2011-03 FOR SUBMITTING THE CDBG GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE PARKING LOT BEHIND THE FIRE HOUSE AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE WALKING PATH WITHIN MEADOW PARK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

DCNR Grant Application and Resolution

Arthur and Mike met with Fran Rupert from DCNR to discuss applying for a small community grant to develop a portion of Meadow Park. This portion would consist of the ADA slopes from the Perkiomen Trail, playground surface, swings, and climbing frame. The DCNR small community grant is for \$60,000 but there is no match on the first \$20,000 but there is a 50/50 match on anything over \$20,000. Therefore, for a \$60,000 project, the Borough’s match would be \$20,000. Council would need a motion and a vote to approve the submission of the DCNR Grant.

MOTIONED BY LEE ANN MILLER AND SECONDED BY RAY YEANISH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2011-04 TO SUBMITT THE DCNR GRANT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A PORTION OF MEADOW PARK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

Revitalization Grant Application and Resolution

The application for the Montgomery County Revitalization Grant is due April 1, 2011. Mike had a conversation with Brian O'Leary from the Montgomery County Planning Commission where Mr. O'Leary stated that the Alleyway project is a strong application.

Councilwoman Lee Ann Miller recused herself from this vote because of being an adjoining property owner.

MOTIONED BY RAY YEANISH AND SECONDED BY MAUREEN GIACOMUCCI TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2011-05 TO SUBMITT THE REVITALIZATION GRANT TO MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Road Projects

Update on the 2011 road projects. Currently, the Borough is working with the Authority to coordinate work associated with the road projects. According to the Borough's road plan, the 2011 projects will include the resurfacing of Second Street from Perkiomen Avenue to Church Street. The Authority will use a TV camera to look at the pipes on Second Street.

Correspondence

- A letter was sent to the Verizon property explaining that they are responsible for the maintenance of their property and sidewalks and if they failed to comply this year a notice of violation and citation will be issued.
- A letter was sent to Bethanne Dowdy at 904 Summit who is the administrator of the trust for 816 Summit Avenue. She was notified of the problems and complaints concerning the dogs at 816 Summit Avenue and was provided all letters that were sent regarding noise and dog waste.
- Mark John and Mike conducted a property inspection from the yard at 902 Summit Avenue and found that the deck and property was for the most part cleaned up. There were a few piles of dog waste and there were two large bags on the deck, which are supposedly filled with dog waste, but there was no way to tell that they were actually filled with dog waste. Mark and Mike observed five dogs, four of which are a German Sheppard breed and one smaller white dog. They were barking profusely when Mark and Mike walked over near the side yard fence between 816 Summit and 902 Summit.

- John's Old School/New Skool barbershop has still not complied with my request to remove signs. I have not taken any further action at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: The committee is still working on the Ordinance.

REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE: The committee is meeting with the County Planner to review the communities input that was received about Main Street. The Committee will also be meet with Dave Leh and a representative from PennDot.

Jeff Gross from Souderton met with the Committee and suggested to get the Ordinances together and look at the uses in the VC 1 and VC 2 district.

The Committee would like to send out a mailing detailing information about Community Day, street cleaning, trail parking and a Revitalization meeting. Council approves of this mailing.

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE: Community Day is Saturday April 30 from 10am to 4pm. clean up day is Saturday April 16 from 10am to 12pm.

Summer Activities, Red Hill Band for Flag Day June 12. Two concerts and activities will take place in the fall.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: No Report

STREETS AND ROADS: No Report

STREET LIGHTING: No Report

ALLEY WAY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: The Caramenicos have some issues about the maintenance agreement and the easement has not been signed.

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: The sign for the Park Rules needs to be replaced. An email was sent to Council and the Mayor for there choice of a green background with white lettering or a white background with green lettering. It was 5 -1 vote for the green background with the white lettering. Gail will order three of the signs.

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Trail parking signs also need to be placed at the Firehouse.

Parks Board met and reviewed the concept plan for Meadow Park. Arthur would like a vote from Council on the concept Plan for Meadow Park.

MOTIONED BY MAUREEN GIACOMUCCI AND SECONDED BY RAY YEANISH TO APPROVE THE CONCEPT PLAN FOR MEADOW PARK. ALL WERE IN FAVOR AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

Next meeting will be April 14, 2011 @ 7:30 PM

It was motioned by Ray Yeanish and seconded by Maureen Giacomucci to adjourn the meeting at 9:04PM. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



Gail L. Phillips
Council Secretary