

BOROUGH OF SCHWENKSVILLE, PA
COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 13, 2014

Council Vice-President Lee Ann Miller at 7:00 PM called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on November 13, 2014, 2014 to order.

Present, Lee Ann Miller, Lisa Dull, Joe Homan, and Mayor Joe Giunta.

Also, present Dave Leh, Borough Engineer, Blake Dunbar Jr., Esquire, Anne Klepfer, Borough Manager, and Secretary-Treasurer Gail Phillips.

Absent: Craig Dunham

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: by the assembly

SPECIAL BUSINESS:

1. Letters of Resignation
 - a. Rudy Micsko's resignation letter from Borough Council; Motion by Joe Homan second by Lisa Dull that Council regretfully accepts the resignation from Rudy Micsko. All in favor, Motion carried 3-0.
 - b. Bill Gauger's resignation letter from Borough Authority; Motion by Lisa Dull second by Joe Homan and accepts the resignation from Bill Gauger. All in favor, Motion carried 3-0.
2. Appointments to fill unfinished terms
 - a. Council Term ending 12/31/2015; **Motion** by Joe Homan **second** by Lisa Dull to appoint Darren Rash to fill the term vacated by Rudy Micsko. All in favor, **Motion carried 3-0**. Mayor Giunta administered the Affidavit of Residency and the Oath of Office to newly appointed Darren Rash.
 - b. Borough Authority Term Ending 12/31/2018; **Motion** by Lisa Dull **second** by Joe Homan to appoint Tom Slater Sr. to fill the term vacated by Bill Gauger. **Motion carried 3-0 with one abstention**.

Vice-President Lee Ann Miller turned the meeting over to Mayor Giunta for the reorganization of Borough Council:

3. Reorganization of Borough Council
 - a. Lee Ann Miller nominated Joe Homan for Council President, with no other nominations; the motion was second by Lisa Dull. **Motion carried 3-0**.
 - b. There was no change in the Vice President or President Pro Tem, therefore no action taken.

Mayor Giunta turned the meeting over to newly elected Joe Homan Council President.

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MINUTES: Dispense with the reading of the September 11, 2014 Regular Meeting Minutes, and the October 9, 2014 Regular Meeting minutes and approve the same as presented. **Motion** by Lee Ann Miller **second** by Lisa Dull, **Motion carried 3-0-1 with Darren Rash abstaining.**

AUDIENCE: Harry Phillips, President of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Camp 387, and Gary Hacker Trustee would like to have the Montgomery County Concert Band for the entertainment for the June Flag Retirement held in Meadow Park. Camp 387 would like to ask the Borough to share in the cost of the band for 2015. Council likes the idea and Lisa Dull will add this to the agenda for the Park and Recreation Board for discussion. Mr. Phillips also stated that the boy scouts are a big participant for the flag retirement ceremony. The POSofA retired over 4,000 in 2014.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND TREASURERS REPORT:

Gail Phillips reported that for the period ending October 31, 2014, the current invoices due for payment total \$30,237.28. This includes \$17,012.50 from the General Fund, \$853.11 from the Liquid Fuels Account, \$9,358.57 from payroll and \$3,013.10 from Capital Fund. **Motion** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Lee Ann Miller to pay the bills totaling \$30,237.28. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

Unclaimed Property:

The Borough received paperwork from Bill Bushnell/ Rep. Marcy Toepel's office about unclaimed property owed to the Schwenksville Police Department. Mrs. Phillips would like to fill out the paperwork and sign the documents. **Motioned** by Lisa Dull **second** by Lee Ann Miller to have Mrs. Phillips sign the documents for the unclaimed property and send to Bill Bushnell /Marcy Toepel's office for processing. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System – Mrs. Phillips presented Borough Council with the 2015 MMO worksheet. Report on file at Borough Hall. **Motion** by Lisa Dull to accept the worksheet and **seconded** by Darren Rash. All in favor, **Motion Carried 4-0.**

FINANCE REPORT: Mrs. Klepfer's report: For the period January 1, 2014 through October 31, 2014, Total Income for General Fund and Liquid Fuels Funds was \$459,832.17 and Total Expenditures was \$435,352.92 for a net gain of \$24,479.25. General Fund experienced a net gain of \$22,110.47. Assets: General Fund Assets Total \$783,526.02; Capital Fund Assets total \$20,418.33; and Liquid Fuels Fund Assets total \$40,694.10 for a combined Assets total of \$844,638.45.

2015 Tax Ordinance Authorization to Advertise: The Borough is faced with increasing maintenance and insurance costs and stagnant or decreasing revenues, most notably the Earned Income Tax. Borough Council and Mayor Giunta agree to raise the tax a proposed .5 mill. The increase amounts to a \$76.00 increase in the annual real estate tax paid to Schwenksville Borough for the median home-assessed value of \$152,047, which is about 21 cents per day. This is an 11%

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increase and is the first tax increase in since 2007. **Motioned** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Lee Ann Miller to approve the publication and notification of the 2015 Tax increase of .5 mills. **Motion carried 4-0.**

2015 Budget - Authorization to Advertise: Mrs. Klepfer would like a motion to advertise The 2015 Draft Budget of \$990,455.00. This sum includes \$481,455 in General Fund Expenditures, \$466,000 in Capital Expenditures and \$43,000 in Liquid Fuels expenditures.

Motion by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Lisa Dull to authorize the advertisement of the 2015 Draft Budget for public review as prepared. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

2014 Audit: The elected Auditor's recommend that the Borough conduct an outside audit. Mrs. Klepfer has contacted Dunlap & Associates for a proposal. Mrs. Klepfer recommends maintaining the process of completing an audit performed by the Elected Board of Auditors and utilizing Dunlap & Associates' professional CPA services on a consulting bases to assist with year-end procedures, balance sheet presentation and QuickBooks accounting. **Motioned** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Darren Rash to contract with Dunlap & Associates not to exceed \$1,500 for 2015. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

ENGINEERS REPORT – Dave Leh reported that the Contractor has cleaned out the Centennial Street culvert making a 4ft clearance. The stonework is finished. There is grout that is falling from around some stone in the culvert; repairs will be an extra \$1,000. Council is ok with the extra charge.

S. Main Street Project: Anne and Dave met with PennDot to review the letter from PennDot for S. main Street. Three key items were discussed.

1. Improvements to the actual pavement structure to get more curb reveal and improve cross slopes. PennDot will work with the Borough and the curb reveals design.
2. Left Turn Lane @ Perkiomen Avenue and Main Street, PennDot gave the Borough a revised plan adjusting the original left turn lane. Dave's office made the changes in the computer and sent them to PennDot. PennDot verbally accepted the new plan, which means **installing a modified turn lane**. This plan will allow traffic to effectively que for the left turn and gives us one more parking space than we previously had south of Perkiomen Avenue and we do not lose any parking spaces on the north side of Perkiomen Avenue.
3. Midwalk Crosswalk, PennDot had concerns on the safety of it based on design criteria and PennDot's requirements. There is just too much traffic volume, and not sufficient pedestrian volume on Main Street for a mid-block crosswalk. PennDot will not approve the crosswalk so this will be taken off the plan.

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S. Main Street: Linda Wilde of 63 Main Street has a storm drain in front of her home and has been asking for years for someone to look at it and have it fixed. Ms. Wilde feels the grate is sinking and the macadam is sinking where the vehicle tires rest. Mrs. Klepfer and Mr. Leh have had the engineers look at the storm drain and grate. PennDot maintenance has looked also and do not see it as an immediate problem. This grate is in the work zone for the sidewalk replacement project and the Borough will re-examine it in this context. In addition, Ms. Wilde would like someone to look at the steel grate at Perkiomen and Main at the light. Ms. Wilde would like to know if South Main Street residents would be getting the two parking spots coming into town that are currently painted yellow, back to use. Ms. Wilde stated that when the trailhead project was done, someone decided we should not park any cars there anymore and they took them away. She also stated that one parking space in front of Mr. West's property was lost when the Borough moved the centerline 2ft. The spot the Borough is gaining from PennDot's modified turn lane is simply one less spot that is being taken away.

Mr. Homan responded that the resident concern log was circulated to Borough Council. Mr. Homan would like to have a public meeting to talk about the parking, facts about how many parking spots were there 10 years ago, how many parking spots three years ago and how many when project is completed. Mr. Homan would like to finish this discussion on the parking. In the end, it is still public parking. Mrs. Klepfer confirmed and clarified that the Borough is moving forward with the modified left turn lane plan based on the PennDot recommendation, because the next step is to resubmit the clean plan addressing the four pages of review comments that were mostly minor clarifications and hopefully getting an HOP permit. Mrs. Klepfer stated she would like to have the bid package in a position for the County to review in February, have the HOP (highway occupancy permit), and be ready to go out to bid in the spring for construction in early summer. Ms. Dull would like to know if a meeting could be held next month. Mr. Homan would like a meeting just to discuss the parking only. Mrs. Knickerbocker thanked Council for working with the residents. A joint meeting of Borough council and the Schwenksville Planning Commission for 8pm on December 4, 2014 following a brief regularly scheduled meeting of the Planning Commission @7pm at Borough Hall. **Motioned** by Lee Ann Miller and **seconded** by Lisa Dull to authorize the engineer to proceed with the PennDot proposed modified turn-lane plan at this time and for staff to proceed with right of way acquisition. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

SOLICITORS REPORT: Mr. Dunbar, Jr. has reviewed the contract and the maintenance bond from GoreCon for the Borough Hall sidewalks. Should the punch list items not be addressed the Borough will seek relieve from the \$14,000 maintenance bond. Mr. Dunbar Jr. will send GoreCon a letter to have the punch list items repaired in the spring.

Appraisals for three properties on S. Main Street: **Motion** by Lee Ann Miller **second** Lisa Dull not to exceed \$1000 for the three appraisals for the S. Main Street project. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0.**

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FIRE COMPANY REPORT – No Report

AMBULANCE REPORT- Gail Phillips read the report for the month of October 2014; there were 7 calls for Schwenksville and 21 calls for Greenfield of Perkiomen Valley. Please consider becoming a member in 2014.

MAYORS REPORT: Mayor Guinta read the report from The State Police for the month of October 2014, indicating 29 incidents.

BOROUGH MANAGER REPORT:

Speed Display Sign: The cost of the display sign is \$4,655 from All Traffic Solutions; this comes with a one-year Wi-Fi enable service, this can be discontinued after one year. **Motion** by Lisa Dull **seconded** by Darren Rash to authorize the purchase from the general fund. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0**.

Vehicles & Traffic Ordinance: Mrs. Klepfer added the Mayor, State Police and any other police department having jurisdiction as to who can enforce the laws. In addition to adding the restrictions for the Brake Retarder signs, the snow emergency, Second Street, Library Lane sections where updated. Amended out of the ordinance is the signage in front of 100 Main Street. The Ordinance also notes that there should be a fire lane behind 700 Main Street and one at the Schwenksville Elementary School. This will be reviewed with the Fire Marshall. **Motioned** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Darren Rash to advertise for adoption the Vehicle & Traffic Ordinance at the December Council meeting. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0**.

Park & Rec Ordinance: This ordinance formalizes the combination of the Park Board and the Activity Committee. **Motion** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Lee Ann Miller to authorize for advertisement the Park & Rec Ordinance. All in favor, **Motion carried 4-0**.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION COMMITTEE: No Report

REVITALIZATION TASK FORCE: No Report

ACTIVITY COMMITTEE: The committee is working on Community Day entertainment and summer concert series.

PROPERTY COMMITTEE: The roofer will make a temporary fix on the South side of the roof and Ms. Miller will call and talk to him about the roof.

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Holiday lights, the price for the three new outlets for S. Main Street would be a cost of \$2,600. Walton's Electric is willing to do the work and defer the bill until next year. Council appreciates the offer but declines the offer at this time. Anne and Gail will coordinate with the Fire Company to get the Holiday Lights up.

STREETS AND LIGHTS: No Report

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD: Gary Schneider installed the three benches at the park. Walton's electric replaced the electric pole.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, December 11, 2014 at 7:00pm

It was **motioned** by Lisa Dull and **seconded** by Darren Rash **to adjourn** the meeting at **9:32 pm**. All in favor, **motion carried**.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L. Phillips
Secretary