

BOROUGH OF SCHWENKSVILLE
COUNCIL MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Council President Darren Rash called the Schwenksville Borough Council meeting on September 14, 2017 to order at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall, 140 Main Street, Schwenksville, PA 19473.

Present, Darren Rash, Lee Ann Miller, Todd, Larsen, Sarah Knickerbocker, Greg Pocius, Mayor Joe Giunta.

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

Absent:

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Mayor's Report, Mayor Giunta read the report submitted by the State Police statistics of 32 incidents for August 2017.

Fire Company Report, Ed Graf read the report for August 2017. There were 7 Calls, 23 men in service and 6:15 time in service. Final Report for Station 73: 60 calls total for the year.

Ambulance Report, Gail Phillips read the report for August 2017 stating Plymouth Community Ambulance had 12 calls for Greenfield Senior Living and 8 calls for the Borough. PCAA Memberships are available anytime; please call 610-277-2776 & ask for the billing department.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: Aileen Johnson from the Perkiomen Valley Library at Schwenksville introduced Meredith Glodek, President. The library had a great summer. The Book Sale will be held October 21, 9:00-1:00 and October 22, 11:00-1:00. The library would like to hold a book sale at the library the same day as Community Day and suggests Food Trucks.

Linda Wilde of 63 Main Street, Schwenksville, PA announced she was audio taping the meeting and read the following statement expressing her personal opinion: *I'm making a statement to address the past issue of my complaints to the Borough Manager about 68 Main Street when the owner was renting rooms by the week that resulted in a lot of police activity, assaults, known drug addicts living there and drug deals being made in broad daylight. I don't know what Anne's reason was for not taking any action for over three years, but it shows a total disregard to other people besides myself. Did you ever give any consideration to all the children living in the area that were exposed to the violence or because we had no idea who was there whether they were sexual predators or sex offenders because you also have woman and children using the Trail and they were having their party area right down within inches of the Trail. Why finally of course after attending a Council meeting and raising the issues it was stopped with a cease and desist order just like that and I'm wondering Anne why did you not make Council aware of the situation and why you didn't take action. Also, I wanted to ask why at the Borough Public Meeting in July 2016 when I raised the issue of Code Enforcement and building maintenance codes you lied and told us they were mere guidelines. Many residents attending this meeting were concerned and had the right to expect honesty. Why has there not been enforcement all these years? Why ignore it while we are focusing on Revitalization, they go hand in hand. A property owner should not lose value selling their home because next door lives or has two, three or four homes surrounding it that have issues. Again, Code Inspections has overlooked several violations in my block. There are*

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twisted and falling gutters, brackets visible where missing gutters are noticeable just by sitting there in traffic. How is this and so many other violations missed. I should not have to make an appointment with the code official to find out why he decided not to issue citations. Everything is very apparent and you can see it with your naked eye. On the other issue is again I did raise concerns about the chimney not being cited at the State Store. If council approves of that I want to know is there a strategic five-year plan or anything that you will address in the near future. Thank you.

Mr. Rash responded that Ms. Wilde's statement is noted.

Mayor Giunta takes particular offense to the word lie when it comes to our Borough Manager. "I think our Borough Manager has been more than up front and honest with you and a lie in my definition is someone who is intentionally trying to deceive you. Now obviously, there has been some misstatements at times. I make them myself and I freely admit it. I don't intentionally try to deceive anyone for any type of gain. As you well know we basically all up here are volunteers except for our paid staff and we are trying to do the best we can for the citizens of this town."

Ms. Miller's replied to Ms. Wilde stating that Code Enforcement is an ongoing process and the round of things we currently cited for is not over. The other request Ms. Miller made, is she would like it if Ms. Wilde would not develop her concerns into a personal attack either to Anne or any member of Council or any member of the Borough Staff. Ms. Wilde is welcome to express her opinion, concern or complaint by filling out and submitting the form to the Borough, but please don't attack any member of the Borough staff.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Dave Leh reported on the Phase II Archeological Study revised proposal. For \$3,177.08; three hands dug small holes 2ft deep will be dug close to the boat launch site for more soil testing. Rep. Marcy Toepel's office wrote a letter on the Borough's behalf regarding the high cost of the soil testing, no response from their letter. Motion to accept the revised Phase II Archeological Study proposal for \$3,177.08 for digging three small holes 2ft. deep and for the soil study. **Motion** Greg Pocius **second** Todd Larsen and also a thank you to Mr. Leh and Mrs. Klepfer. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Paving Projects for 2017 – Completed the North Bound lane on Third Street to Maple Street, a repair on Fourth Street and a repair on Mountainview Avenue. We have proposals from Sacks to repair inlets on Hillcrest Avenue and one on Centennial Street and the repairs will be completed in October.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Public Hearing amending the Zoning Code. Mr. Dunbar Jr. opened the Public Hearing for the adoption of the Wireless Communications Ordinance NO. 392.

This Ordinance addresses both the tower based communication facilities and also the smaller non-tower based facilities. This Ordinance sets guidelines and restrictions and gives the Borough control. It provides for permitting, maintenance, where they can be placed in the Borough, design specifications etc. Cohen and Associates drew up the Ordinance. The Public record will consist of a copy of the Exhibit B-1, Schwenksville Planning Commission Minutes August 3, 2017, Exhibit B-2, Montgomery County Planning Commission Review August 31, 2017, Exhibit B-3, Schwenksville Borough Council Minutes August 10, 2017, Exhibit B-4, Legal Notice, Exhibit B-5, Law Library

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correspondence, Exhibit B-6, the proof of publication indicating that the ordinance was advertised in its entirety September 1, 2017 and September 7, 2017 and Exhibit B-7, Ordinance NO. 392. Any discussion or comments from Council or the audience would be welcome. Mr. Rash commented that the Schwenksville Planning Commission spent two meetings reviewing this ordinance. The Cohen group did a good job, they didn't agree on everything we pushed back on them but they have a lot more experience than us. With no other comments or questions Mr. Dunbar asked for a motion. **Motion** Todd Larsen **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to approve Ordinance NO. 392 Wireless Communications. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0,**

Driveway Easement for Schwenksville Investment Properties, LLC Development – Authorization to execute the easement agreement involving Schwenksville Borough, Schwenksville Fire Company, Schwenksville Investment Properties, LLC and Schwenksville Borough Authority. **Motion** Greg Pocius **second** Sarah Knickerbocker for Schwenksville Council to sign the easement agreement. **Motion carried 4 yay** with Lee Ann Miller abstaining from any discussion about this agreement and also abstaining from the vote based on the fact that she is a member of Schwenksville Investment Properties, LLC.

ACTION ITEMS – MOTIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES:

Minutes: Dispense with the reading of the August 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes and approve the August 10, 2017 Regular Meeting Minutes as amended. **Motion** by Sarah Knickerbocker **seconded** by Todd Larsen. **Motion carried 5-0.**

Treasurer's Report: Gail Phillips submitted the Treasurer report for the period ending August 31, 2017, the current invoices due for payment total \$66,955.66. This includes \$52,338.37 from the General Fund, \$1,419.14 from the Liquid Fuels Account, \$9,360.16 from payroll and \$3,837.99 from Capital Fund. **Motion** by Greg Pocius **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to accept the Treasurer's report and pay the bills totaling \$66,955.66. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System: Mrs. Phillips presented Borough Council with the 2018 MMO worksheet. The Borough owes nothing to the fund.

Transportation Alternative Set-Aside Program: Resolution 2017-13 – Filing of the 2017 PENNDOT TA-SET A Side Program, directs and authorizes the Borough Manager as the official representative of the application. **Motion** Todd Larsen **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to approve Resolution 2017-13. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

Manager's Report: A monthly activity report was submitted to Council by Mrs. Klepfer. A follow up to the grant. The County notified Mrs. Klepfer that additional funding became available so the most recent CDBG, (sidewalks in the 100 block of Main Street) grant that was partially funded is now fully funded including the contingencies.

Finance Report: Mrs. Klepfer read the summary Financial Report. For the Period January 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017 total income for General Fund and Liquid Fuels Funds was \$543,168.78

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and Total Expenditures was \$326,700.96 for a net gain of \$216,467.82. General Fund experienced a net gain of \$195,535.16. General Fund Assets total \$482,805.49, Capital fund Assets total \$1,635.13 and Liquid Fuels Fund Assets total \$50,261.72 for a combined Assets total of \$534,702.34.

Draft Budget Distribution & Schedule - Mrs. Klepfer provided Council with a draft 2018 Budget and asked them to review it and be prepared to ask questions or request additions or deletions at next month's Council Meeting. It will be on the November Council Meeting for authorization to advertise for public comment and adoption in December.

Logo Trademark – Schwenksville – Gateway to the Perkiomen Trail – Pennsylvania's First Greenway Community, will not be renewed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Property Committee: The Committee will meet Friday September 15th @ 10:30am.

Property Committee would like a to know the value of 140 Main Street. **Motion** Greg Pocius **second** Sarah Knickerbocker to authorize Mrs. Klepfer obtain a broker's opinion on the value of 140 Main Street not to exceed \$500 for the brokers cost. All in favor, **Motion carried 5-0.**

300 Main Street property: Discussions on what we can do with the Firehouse building and a timeline as when we could do it. The Committee will come back to Council with recommendations in November of this year.

Historical Committee: The Committee would like to recommend to the Property Committee that they take into consideration all of the Historical things including the Firehouse Museum, in any future moves. The Committee will incorporate the administration of the Museum into the Historical Committee and bring the people in charge of the museum from the Fire Company into the Historical Committee. The air conditioning in the museum is being repaired.

Revitalization Task Force: Finalizing project details. At the last meeting we talked about a program to get other organizations to help in designing the emblems that will go in the street and also possibly funding individuals or organizations for various smaller items such as bike racks, benches etc. it's been over seven years since our Revitalization Plan the original plan by the County required that a municipality revise that document every seven years. The program no longer exists. We don't need to revise the plan but should revisit and review from the stand point of keeping that document alive and going and moving.

Activity Committee: The committee is looking to reenergize the Activity Committee with adding new members. Sarah has volunteered. Greg and Sarah will share meeting times as we cannot have three Council members attend the same meeting. The Activity Committee is Lee Ann, Gail, Berta, Greg and Sarah.

OTHER BUSINESS:

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Adjournment - Motion by Greg Pocius **second** by Sarah Knickerbocker to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 pm. **Motion carried 5-0.**

NEXT MEETING(S):

September 29, 2017 – Mural Dedication

October 5, 2017 Planning Commission 7PM @ Borough Hall

October 12, 2017 Council Regular Meeting 7PM @ Borough Hall

Respectfully Submitted,

Gail L. Phillips
Secretary