

## **BOROUGH OFFICERS**

*Mayor*  
DENEEN SWARTZWELDER

*Borough Manager*  
GREG BACHY

*Solicitor*  
ROBERT L. MCTIERNAN



## **BOROUGH COUNCIL**

CHRISTOPHER ANSELL - *President*  
WELDIANNE SCALES - *Vice President*  
*Members*  
SHAWN ALFONSO WELLS  
JOSHUA MISER  
WILLIAM C. PRICE, JR.  
ABIGAIL SALISBURY  
ANGELA STRIBLING

**BOROUGH OF SWISSVALE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 4, 2023  
7:00 p.m.**

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:17 p.m.
2. ROLL CALL - Present: C. Ansell; W. Scales; S. Alfonso Wells; J. Miser; W. Price; A. Salisbury; A. Stribling; Mayor Swartzwelder
3. PUBLIC COMMENT
  - a. None
4. MEET THE POLICE!
  - a. Council met with Off. Schirmer and Off. Fox.
  - b. Council expressed their thanks and support to the Police Department and offered condolences to the Borough of Brackenridge. Brackenridge Police Chief Justin McIntire was killed in the line of duty on January 3, 2023.
5. Mayoral Proclamation – Local Government Week
  - a. I, Mayor Deneen Swartzwelder, proclaim the week of April 10-14, 2023 as Local Government Week in Swissvale Borough to focus attention on the need for strong, independent and active local government in this Borough and recognize the valuable contributions made by residents serving their communities in public office.
  - b. Mr. Bachy shared that Local Government Week is designed to inform residents about local government.
6. COUNCIL ACTIONS
  - a. Minutes

1. MOTION: I move to approve the minutes of the November 30, 2022 Council Agenda Meeting and the December 7, 2022, Council Meeting.
  - i. Moved by W. Scales, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Salisbury. All Ayes, Motion carries.

b. Finance

1. MOTION: I move to approve the Borough of Swissvale paid bills in the amount of \$1,338,249.37.
  - i. Moved by J. Miser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Stribling. All Ayes, Motion carries.

c. Ordinances and Resolutions

1. MOTION: I move to approve Ordinance #23-01 to add a Chapter to the Code of Ordinances to provide for the creation of the Swissvale Human Relations Commission and to prohibit discrimination in housing, commercial property, employment and public accommodations based upon actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ancestry, religious creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, veteran's status, marital status, familial status, genetic information, handicap or disability, or use of an assistance animal; providing definitions; and providing penalties and remedies for violations of the Ordinance.
  - i. Moved by W. Scales, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Price and S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
  - ii. J. Miser expressed appreciation to the DEI Committee for their work on this ordinance.
  - iii. Mr. Bachy provided background. The positions on the board will be advertised and applications will be accepted.
2. MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution #23-01 to allow the destruction of certain municipal records as outlined to Council.
  - iv. Moved by A. Stribling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
  - v. Mr. Bachy gave background information. The Municipal Records Retention Act governs what records can be destroyed. Mr. Bachy read a proposed list of documents to shred which was also provided to Council.

b. Reports

- i. C.O.G. Report – Weldianne Scales
  - a. The C.O.G. met and elected new officers.
- ii. CONNECT Report – Shawn Alfonso Wells
  - a. LEAD training is taking place to begin the program.
  - b. Solar Energy opportunities are being discussed.
- iii. Building Committee Report – William Price
  - a. Value Engineering is taking place with Borough Staff and CORE Architects to decrease the size and cost of the

proposed building plan. A new plan will hopefully be released for the public to view soon. A revised schedule will be presented to the Building Committee at their next meeting.

- iv. President's Report – Chris Ansell
  - a. Council met in executive session before this meeting.
  - b. Mr. Ansell pointed residents to the website for information regarding important updates such as delays in trash and recycling.
  - c. Trash and recycling will be on normal schedule for the Martin Luther King Jr. Day Holiday.
  - d. There will be a Police Regionalization Meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 pm at the Fire Station. This will be an opportunity for residents to learn more about the pros and cons of a regionalized police force.
  
- v. Mayor's Report – Deneen Swartzwelder
  - a. The mayor thanked the Police Department for the Blue Santa Toy Giveaway event in December.
  - b. Ms. Swartzwelder asked for a moment of silence for Police Chief Justin McIntire of Brackenridge.
  
- vi. Borough Manager's Report – Greg Bachy
  - a. The MLK Jr. Holiday is on January 16<sup>th</sup>. The Admin Office will be closed. Trash and Recycling will NOT be delayed.
  - b. There is a Norfolk Southern Railroad public meeting on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at the David Lawrence Convention Center. The meeting is concerning construction on the tracks through Swissvale to allow double stacked trains to travel through the Washington Street Bridge area. There is also a Public Officials meeting proceeding at 4 pm.
  - c. The Borough Admin and Police Departments are working on vacating the current Borough Building and moving to 7600 Evans Street. The goal is to begin moving the first week of February.
  
- vii. Borough Engineer's Report – Robert Zischkau
  - a. Full report is on file in the Manager's Office.
  - b. C. Ansell asked about progress on the Carrie Furnace Walking Trail. Mr. Zischkau noted that the plans are complete, but there have been delays on the county level. He hopes to have the project completed by summer. Mr. Bachy noted that the Borough has been waiting over 2 years for these contracts.
  
- viii. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins
  - a. No Report.

- ix. Solicitors Report – Robert McTiernan
  - a. Preparing paperwork for TAN loan.
  
- x. New Business
  - a. W. Scales shared notes from the recent DEI Committee Meeting. February is Black History Month and the DEI Committee is asking the public to nominate residents who are trailblazers for Black History Month Honorees. Nominations can be submitted to the Admin Office by end of January. W. Scales also invited residents to participate in the planning and orchestrating of the Borough’s Juneteenth Celebration.
  
- xi. A Moment of Silence was held for Chief of Police Justin McIntire.
  
- xii. Motion to adjourn at 7:58 p. m. Moved by S. Alfonso Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Miser. All Ayes, Motion carries.