

## **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  
FEBRUARY 1, 2023  
7:00 p.m.**

1. Demolition Clearance Hearing at 6:30 p.m.
  - a. Guests present:
    - i. Jocelyne Ditumona
    - ii. Calvin Yoder
2. Interviews for Boards and Commissions of persons unable to attend 1/25/23
  - a. Kurt Summersgill
  - b. Paul Yesko
3. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:39 p.m.
4. ROLL CALL - Present: C. Ansell; W. Scales; S. Alfonso Wells; J. Miser; W. Price; A. Salisbury; A. Stribling; Mayor Swartzwelder
5. PUBLIC COMMENT
  - a. Alexa Lee (2238 S Braddock Ave) - dogs chained up and unsupervised in the front yard.
    - i. Asked Council to consider passing an ordinance to ban dogs being chained in front yards and on porches unsupervised.
6. COUNCIL ACTIONS
  - a. Minutes
    1. MOTION: I move to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2023, Council Meeting.
      - i. Moved by A. Salisbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by J. Miser. All Ayes, Motion carries.
  - b. Finance

1. MOTION: I move to approve the Borough of Swissvale paid bills in the amount of \$522,979.92.
  - i. Moved by A. Salisbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.

c. Personnel

1. MOTION: I move to appoint Veryl Lawson to a four-year term on the Planning Commission, expiring on December 31, 2026.
  - i. Moved by S. Alfonso Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Scales. All Ayes, Motion carries.
2. MOTION: I move to appoint George Petty to a four-year term on the Planning Commission, expiring on December 31, 2026.
  - i. Moved by A. Stribling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Price. All Ayes, Motion carries.
3. MOTION: I move to appoint Gilbert Miller to a five-year term on the Zoning Hearing Board, expiring on December 31, 2027.
  - i. Moved by J. Miser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
4. MOTION: I move to appoint Tracey Crombie Collins to a five-year term on the Wilkesburg-Penn Joint Water Authority Board of Directors, expiring on December 31, 2027.
  - i. Moved by S. Alfonso Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Price. All Ayes, Motion carries.
5. MOTION: I move to appoint Pamela Schmidbauer to a six-year term on the Civil Service Commission, expiring on December 31, 2028.
  - i. Moved by W. Scales, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
6. MOTION: I move to appoint Michael Takacs to a five-year term on the Shade Tree Advisory Committee, expiring on December 31, 2027.
  - i. Moved by A. Stribling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
7. MOTION: I move to appoint Kurt Summersgill to a five-year term on the Shade Tree Advisory Committee, expiring on December 31, 2027.
  - i. Moved by J. Miser, 2<sup>nd</sup> by A. Salisbury. All Ayes, Motion carries.

d. Resolutions

1. MOTION: I move to approve Resolution #23-02 authorizing the staff to submit a grant application to the COVID-19 Small Water and Sewer Grant Program for funding to replace the Sanitary Sewer Line on Schley Avenue.
  - i. Moved by A. Stribling, 2<sup>nd</sup> by S. Alfonso Wells. All Ayes, Motion carries.
2. MOTION: I move to approve Resolution #23-03 declaring the structures located at 2115 and 2117 Noble Street as dangerous buildings and ordering their demolition under the authority of Ordinance 90-8 of the Borough of Swissvale.
  - i. Moved by A. Salisbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Scales.

- ii. Discussion by Council.
- iii. Moved by A. Salisbury to postpone further consideration until the end of business. Second by J. Miser. Ayes – C. Ansell, J. Miser, A. Salisbury, W. Scales, A. Stribling. Abstentions – S. Alfonso Wells, W. Price. Motion carries.
- iv. Amendment – with the understanding that there will be no vote to bid the demolition until after Tuesday, June 6th, 2023. Moved to amend by A. Salisbury, 2<sup>nd</sup> by C. Ansell.
  - Roll Call Vote - S. Alfonso Wells - No; J. Miser - No; W. Price – Yes; A. Salisbury – Yes; W. Scales - No; A. Stribling – Yes; C. Ansell - Yes; Motion passes.
- v. C. Ansell commented that the owners have the unanimous support of Council to take these properties off of the demolition list if progress is made.

e. Reports

- i. C.O.G. Report – Angela Stribling
  - a. The C.O.G. met on January 26. Code Enforcement was discussed.
  - b. The Vector program is open and available for municipalities to submit their opt-in agreements.
  - c. The Annual Dinner will take place on February 10, 2023.
  - d. Amanda from the TCVCOG was present at the Police Regionalization Meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. It was an introduction to the possibilities of shared services in our area. Attendants of the meeting seemed interested in moving the conversation forward.
- ii. CONNECT Report – Shawn Alfonso Wells
  - a. CONNECT has been meeting about fire safety.
  - b. Swissvale’s cohort for the LEAD Program is moving forward.
- iii. Building Committee Report – William Price
  - a. Borough Administrative and Police Offices are moving to the temporary 7600 Evans Street location starting tomorrow.
  - b. The Building Committee and Borough Staff are meeting next Thursday for a page turn meeting with architects and engineers. Mr. Bachy commented that this meeting will make sure that everyone is on the same page.
- iv. President’s Report – Chris Ansell
  - a. C. Ansell has been talking with Mr. Bachy regarding the Borough’s finance and reimbursement policies, specifically how check requests are made, etc. This will be discussed in Finance Committee.
  - b. C. Ansell, Mr. Bachy and A. Salisbury met with Green Edge Solutions and Duquesne Light and are making progress toward placing EV charging stations in the Borough.

- v. Mayor's Report – Deneen Swartzwelder
    - a. There is a Special Election on Feb 7, 2023.
    - b. Egg Hunt at Memorial Field - Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> at noon.
    - c. Parkway flower planting – May 6<sup>th</sup>.
    - d. Juneteenth – June 17<sup>th</sup> at Memorial Field.
    - e. Swissvale 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – combined celebration with Community Days - July 29<sup>th</sup>.
    - f. Farmer's Market 10<sup>th</sup> Season – Back at Dickson School – Beginning June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  
  - vi. Borough Manager's Report – Greg Bachy
    - a. The Pittsburgh Regional Transit (PRT) Authority has proposed dropping a section of the P3 route that goes through Swissvale. Mr. Bachy submitted a letter on behalf of Council to oppose the change and express concerns.
    - b. The Borough Admin Offices and Police Station are moving to the Evans Street location over the next two days.
    - c. February 20<sup>th</sup> is Presidents Day. It is not a Borough holiday. There will be no change to trash or recycling collection.
  
  - vii. Borough Engineer's Report – Robert Zischkau
    - a. Report is on File in Borough Manager's Office.
    - b. J. Miser asked to see the proposed walking trail plan behind Les Getz Memorial Park. Mr. Zischkau will send the designs to Mr. Bachy.
  
  - viii. Water Authority Report – Tracey Crombie-Collins
    - a. Ms. Crombie-Collins thanked Council for reappointing her.
    - b. The PENNVEST Lead line replacement program changed contractors.
    - c. There were 111 main line breaks system wide since the November Board meeting.
  
  - ix. Solicitors Report – Robert McTiernan
    - a. Nothing to add to the previous agenda items.
7. Motion to adjourn at 10:06 p. m. Moved by S. Alfonso Wells, 2<sup>nd</sup> by W. Scales. All Ayes, Motion carries.